

MODERN COMICS

NOVEMBER
No. 79

10¢

BLACKHAWK
challenges
FATE!

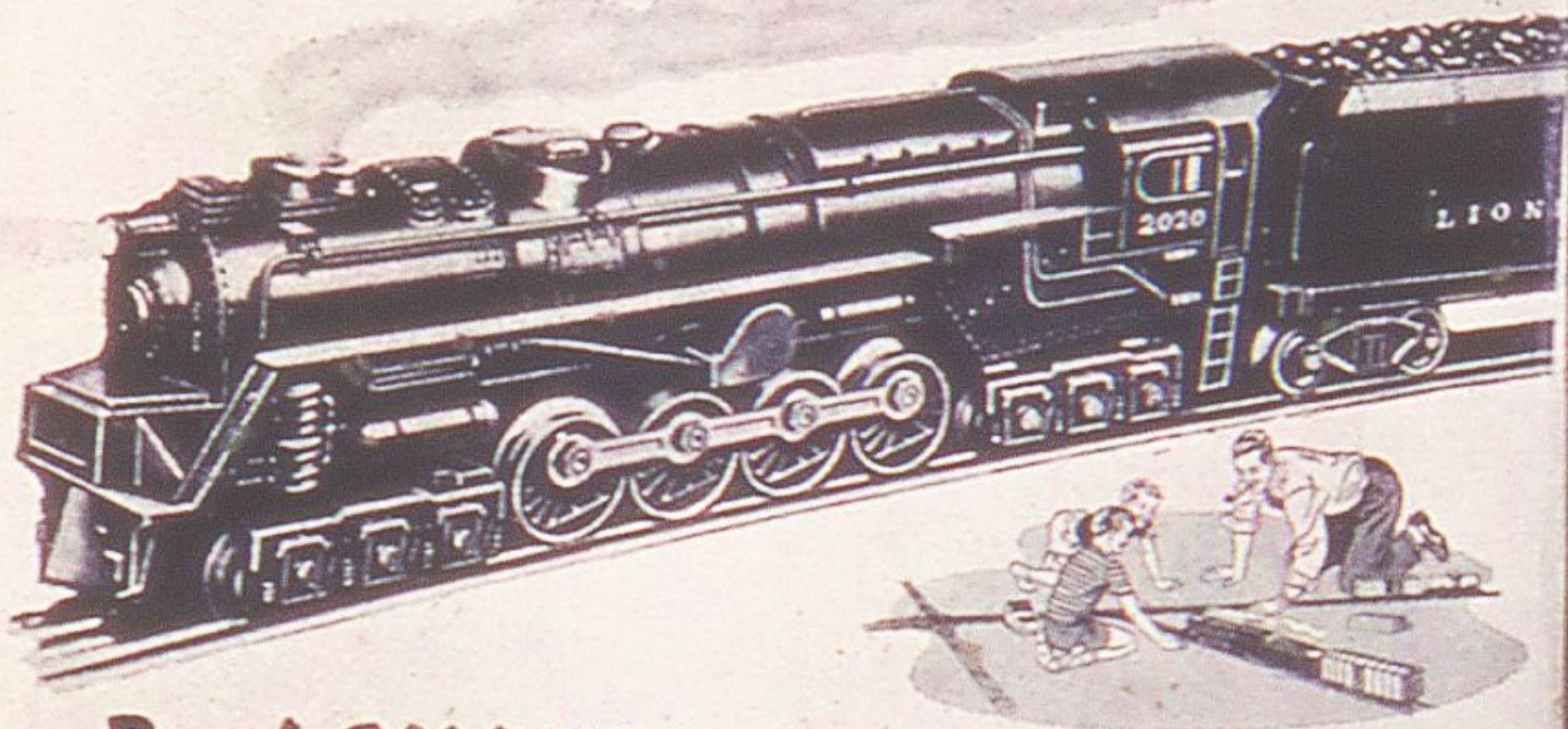


STILL 52 PAGES



WEB COMIC
UNIVERSE.COM

Get a LIONEL this Christmas



Real SMOKE!—Real WHISTLE!

Have you seen the new LIONEL Trains? Go to your favorite store and see them soon! Magnificent new LOCOS—including the famous Santa Fe and N. Y. Central DIESELS! Beauties! Ask to see the new conveyor type log loader, and the brand new coal elevator! See the new stream-lined passenger cars! Begin this Christmas to add new items to your LIONEL model railroad. LIONEL Train Sets priced as low as \$15.95.



Send today for 36 page FULL COLOR Catalog.

LIONEL TRAINS, P O Box 418
Madison Square Station—NYC 10.

I enclose 10c. Please send me the new Lionel Full Color Catalog right away.

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY & STATE ZONE

It shows everything!—tells everything about LIONEL TRAINS and accessories. Get yours early!

LIONEL TRAINS

MODERN COMICS, November, 1948, No. 78. Published monthly by Comic Magazines, 8 Lord St., Buffalo, N. Y. Executive Office, 375 Summer St., Stamford, Conn. E. W. Arnold, General Manager, George E. Brewer, Editor. Yearly subscription \$1.75 plus 32 cents for mailing, total \$2.07. Foreign \$2.50. Entered as second-class matter April 28, 1947, at the Post Office, Buffalo, N. Y. under the act of March 3, 1879. The characters and events pictured herein are entirely fictional. The Publisher accepts no responsibility for unsolicited material. Editorial and Advertising Offices, 23 West 42nd Street, New York City, E. E. Marshall, Advertising Representative, F. E. M. Cole & Co., 501 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, Ill. Western Representative: Copyright 1948 by Comic Magazines. Printed in U. S. A.

MODERN COMICS

BLACKHAWK



In the Kingdom of KRAFORA—
a land dominated by the wor-
ship of FATE... there are
sometimes sweet moments—

AH, SELIM, I FIND IT
HARD TO BELIEVE OUR
HAPPINESS WILL
COME!

BUT IT WILL,
AZIZA! WE
MARRY TO-
MORROW!
ALREADY THE
WEDDING PLANS
ARE MADE!

I HAVE SOWN
CROPS THAT WILL
SUPPORT US THIS
YEAR...NEXT YEAR
OUR FARM WILL
PROSPER! WE
CAN LOOK FORWARD
TO A LONG LIFE
OF SIMPLE JOY IN
KRAFORA!

YOU
RECKON
WITHOUT
FATE,
YOUNG
DREAMER!

SELIM! IT IS THE
MESSENGER OF
FATE! HE HAS
COME TO CALL
US INTO HIS
SERVICE!

TRUE, PRETTY ONE!
AT REGULAR INTER-
VALS HE SELECTS
THE FINEST YOUNG
MEN AND WOMEN TO
JOIN HIM IN HIS
SECRET KINGDOM!



YOU TWO ARE HONORED ABOVE
YOUR COMPANIONS! COME
WITH ME...

NO! AZIZA AND
I WILL MARRY TO-
MORROW! WE WON'T
LEAVE...



YOU DEFY FATE? AN EXAMPLE
MUST BE MADE OF SUCH
REBELLION! DIE!

YOU'VE KILLED
SELIM, MY LOVED
ONE! HEAVEN'S
CURSE UPON YOU,
MESSENGER!



MORE DEFIANCE...
THEREFORE, MORE
PUNISHMENT! JOIN
YOUR LOVER WHERE
HE HAS GONE!



But high in the
sky overhead...

DOWN THERE...
I CAN SEE WITH MY
BINOCULARS!
LOOKS LIKE
VIOLENCE!



As the plane
noses down...

CALLING ALL
BLACKHAWKS!
RENDEZVOUS...
QUICKLY! JOIN
ME IN LANDING!



FOR ONCE IT SEEMS THAT
THE BLACKHAWKS ARE A
FEW SECONDS TOO LATE!



ME VOILA, BLACKHAWK! ZE OZZERS
ARE COMING IN! WHAT HAS
BEFALLEN ZOSE POOR
YOUNG PEOPLE?

THEY'RE
DEAD, ANDRE!
STRANGE,
THOUGH...I
SEE NO MARKS
OR WOUNDS!



AN UNUSUAL AMULET
AROUND HIS NECK! A
SIMILAR ONE IS
WORN BY THE
GIRL!

TOUCH NOT
THE SACRED
CHARM OF
FATE,
STRANGERS!
WOULD YOU ROB
THE DEAD?



WE ARE STRANGERS,
BUT NOT ROBBERS!
WE ARE SORRY WE
COULD NOT HELP
THESE POOR
PEOPLE...

**FATE RULES
THIS LAND
OF KRAFORA!**
THERE IS NO
HELP...



SOME SAY FATE
RULES THE WHOLE
WORLD! BUT HOW...

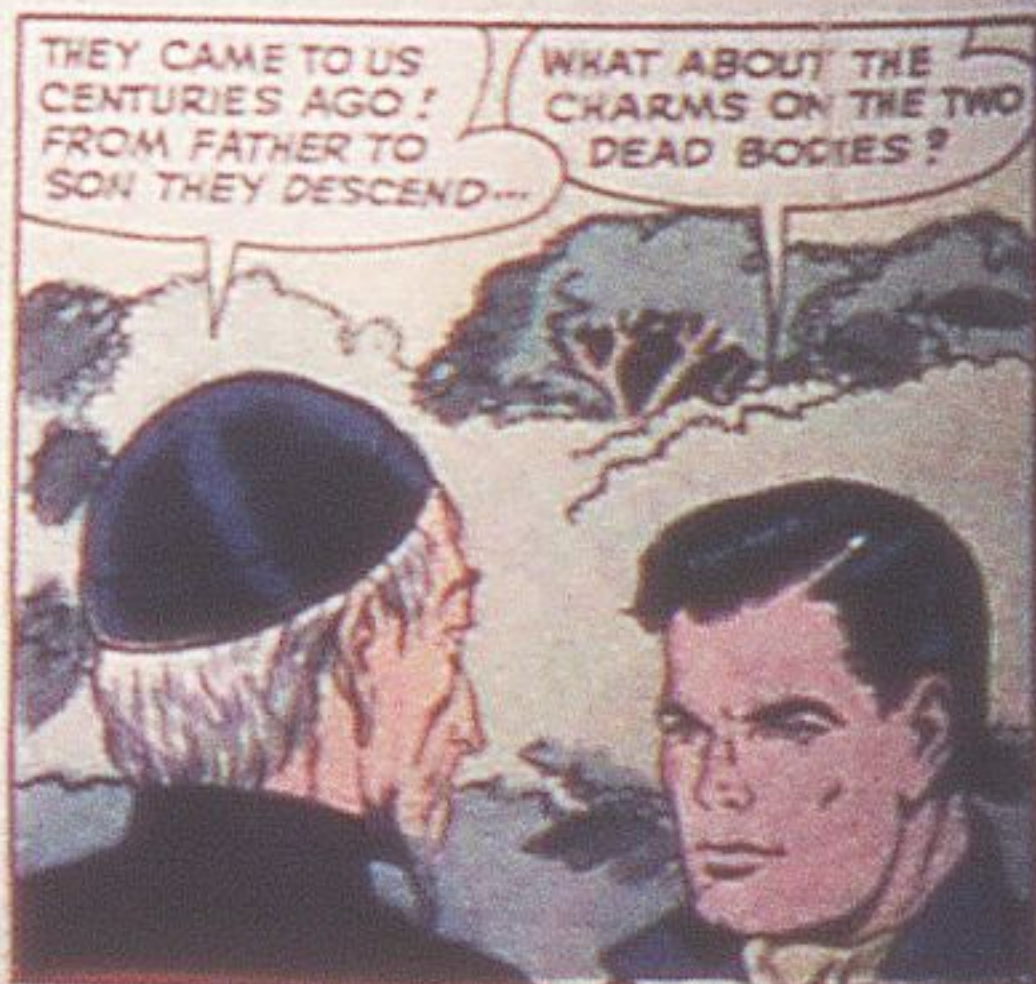
AZIZA AND SELIM DEFIED
THE COMMAND OF FATE'S
MESSENGER TO GO WITH
HIM! AT A SIGN FROM
HIM, THEY DIED!

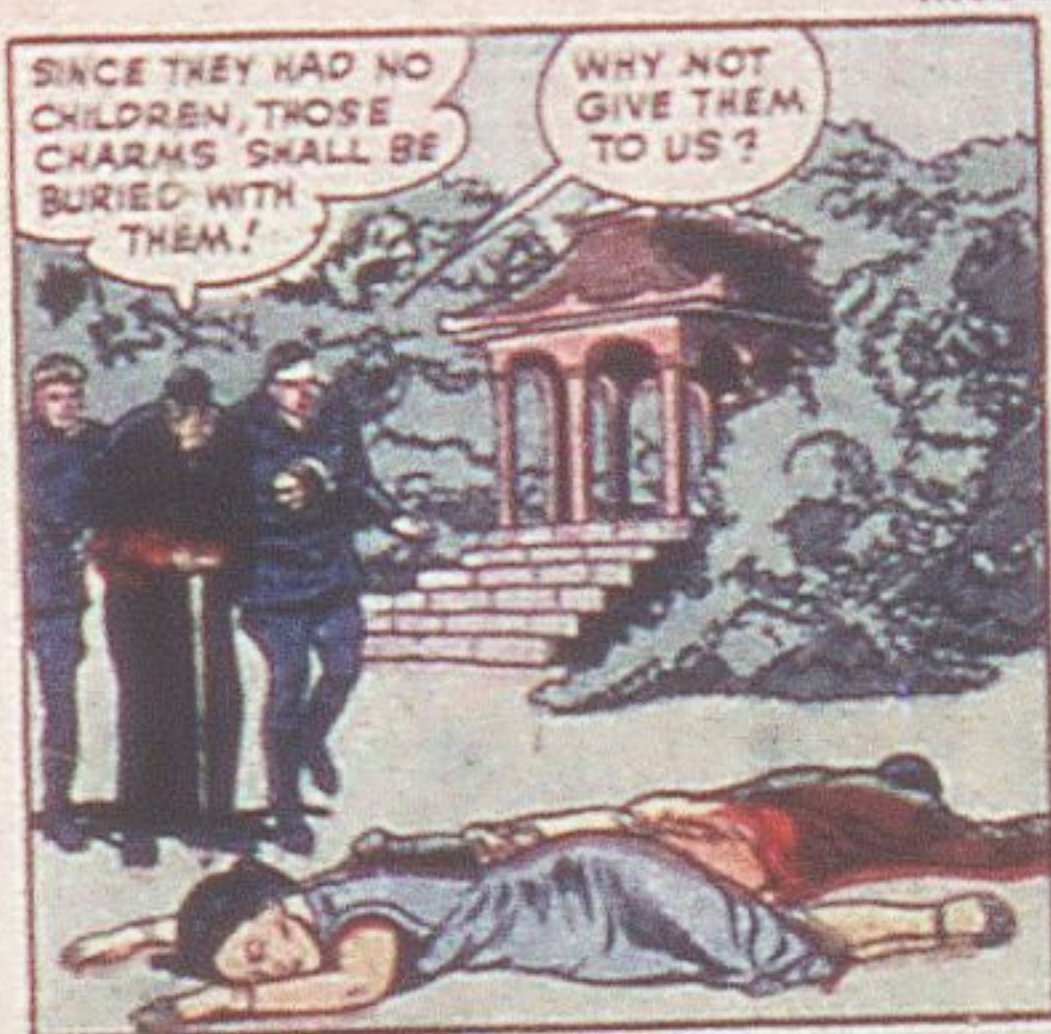


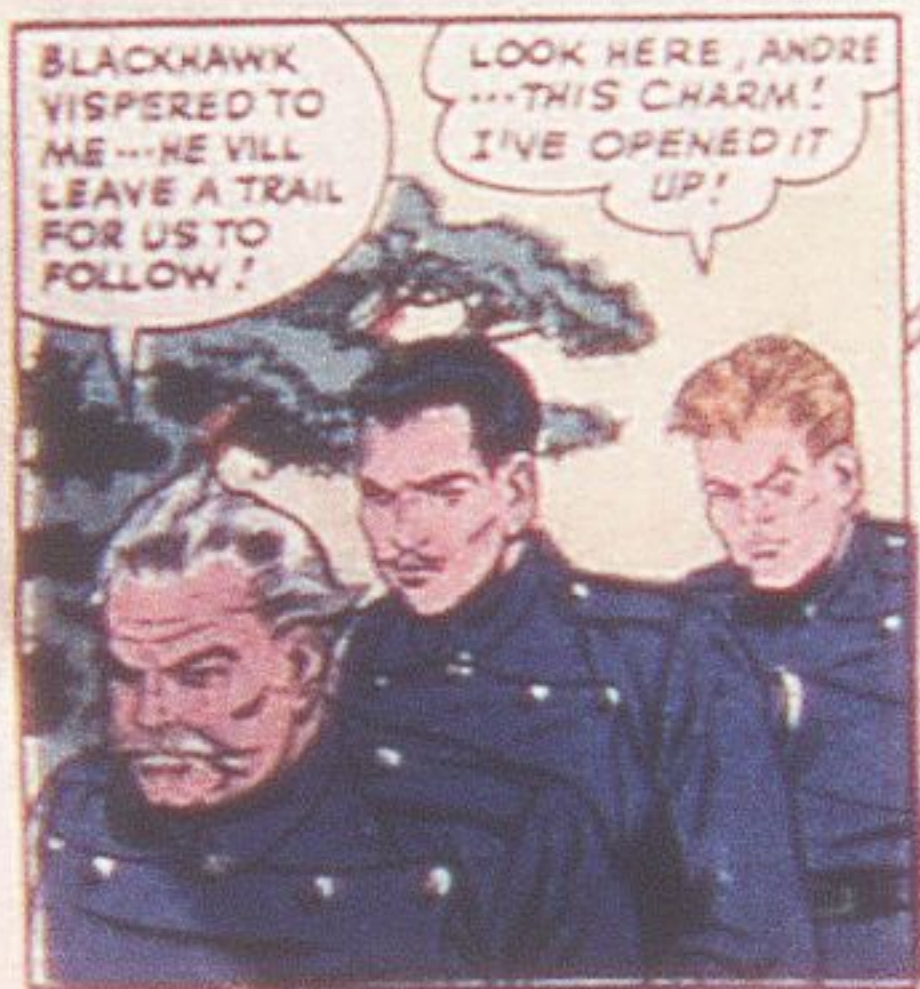
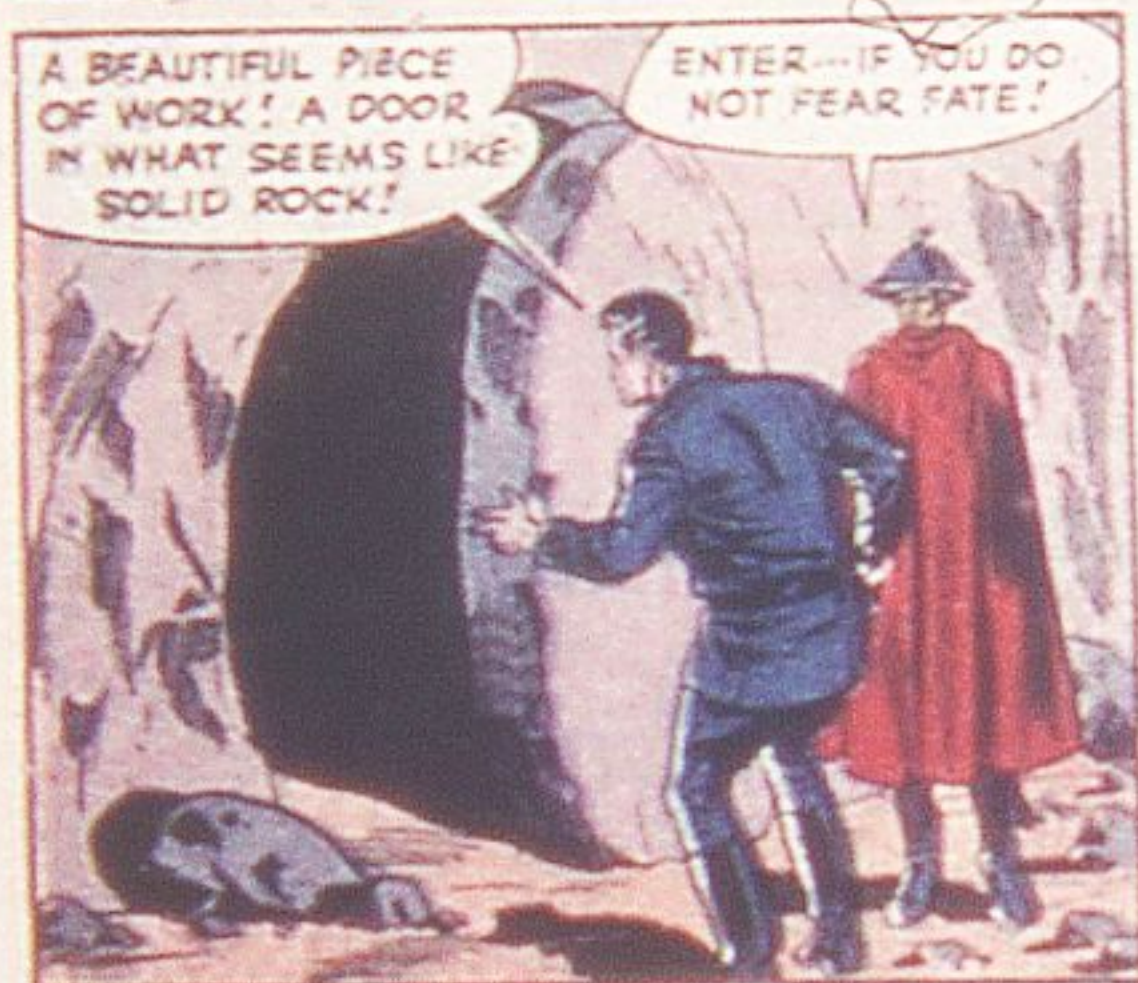
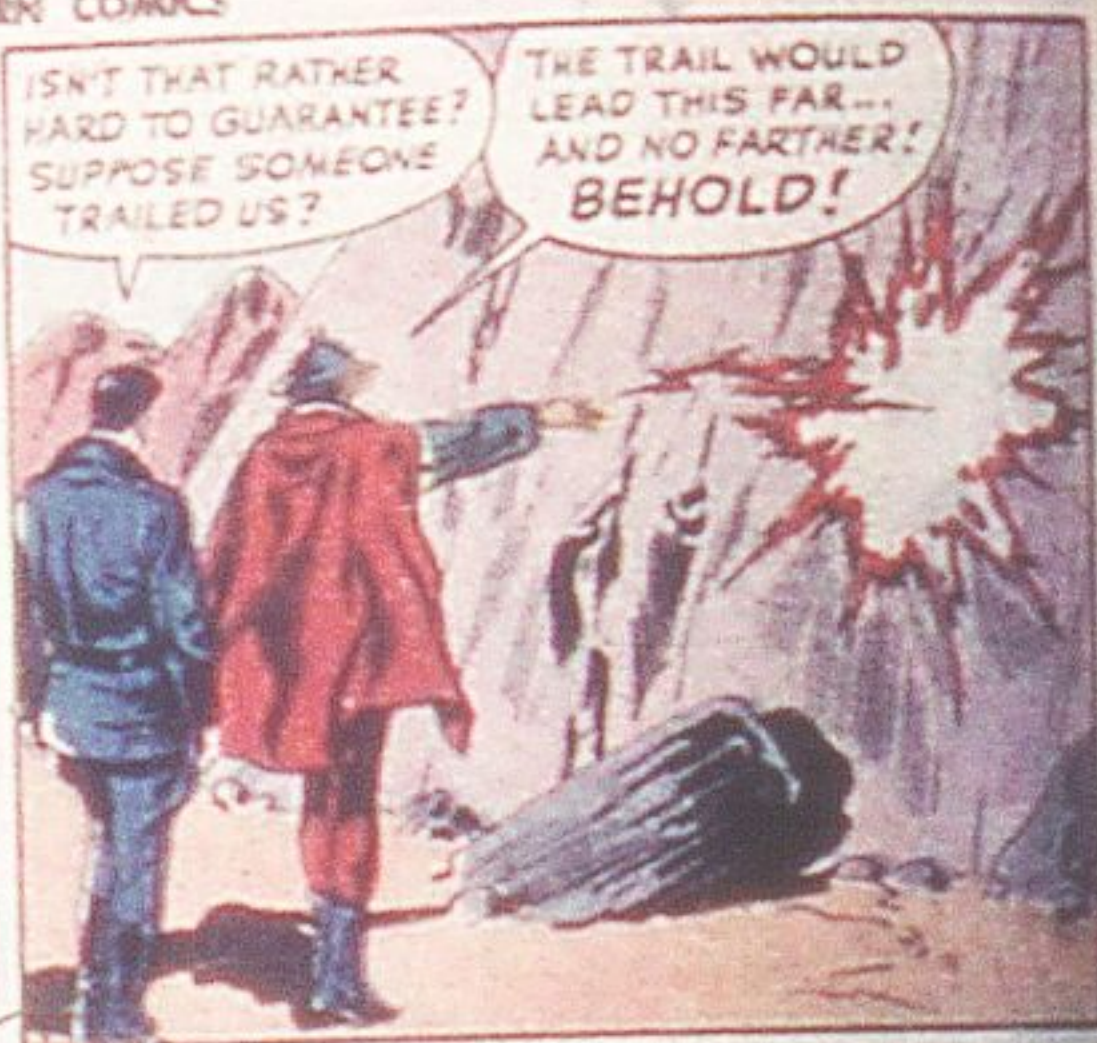
AT A SIGN, YOU SAY,
M'SIEUR! HOW CAN
A SIGN KILL?

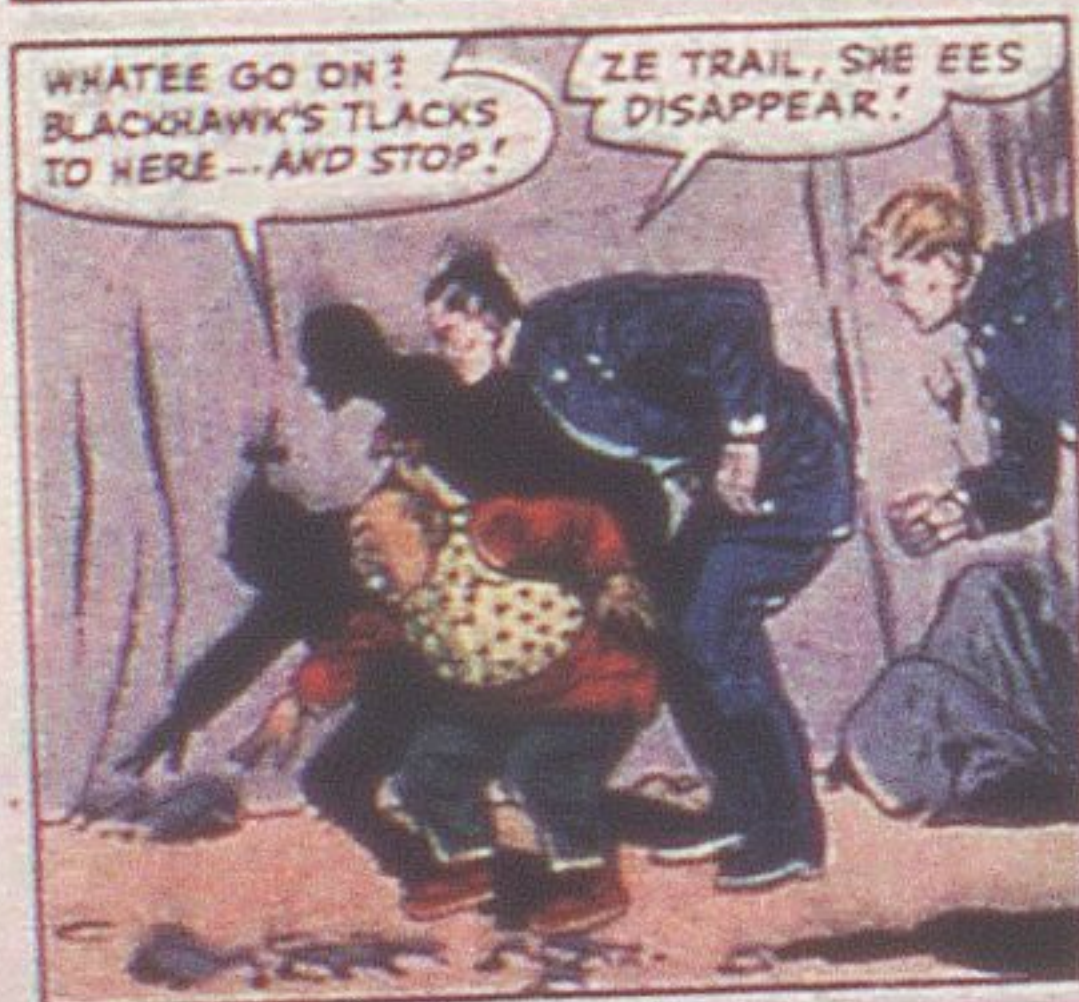
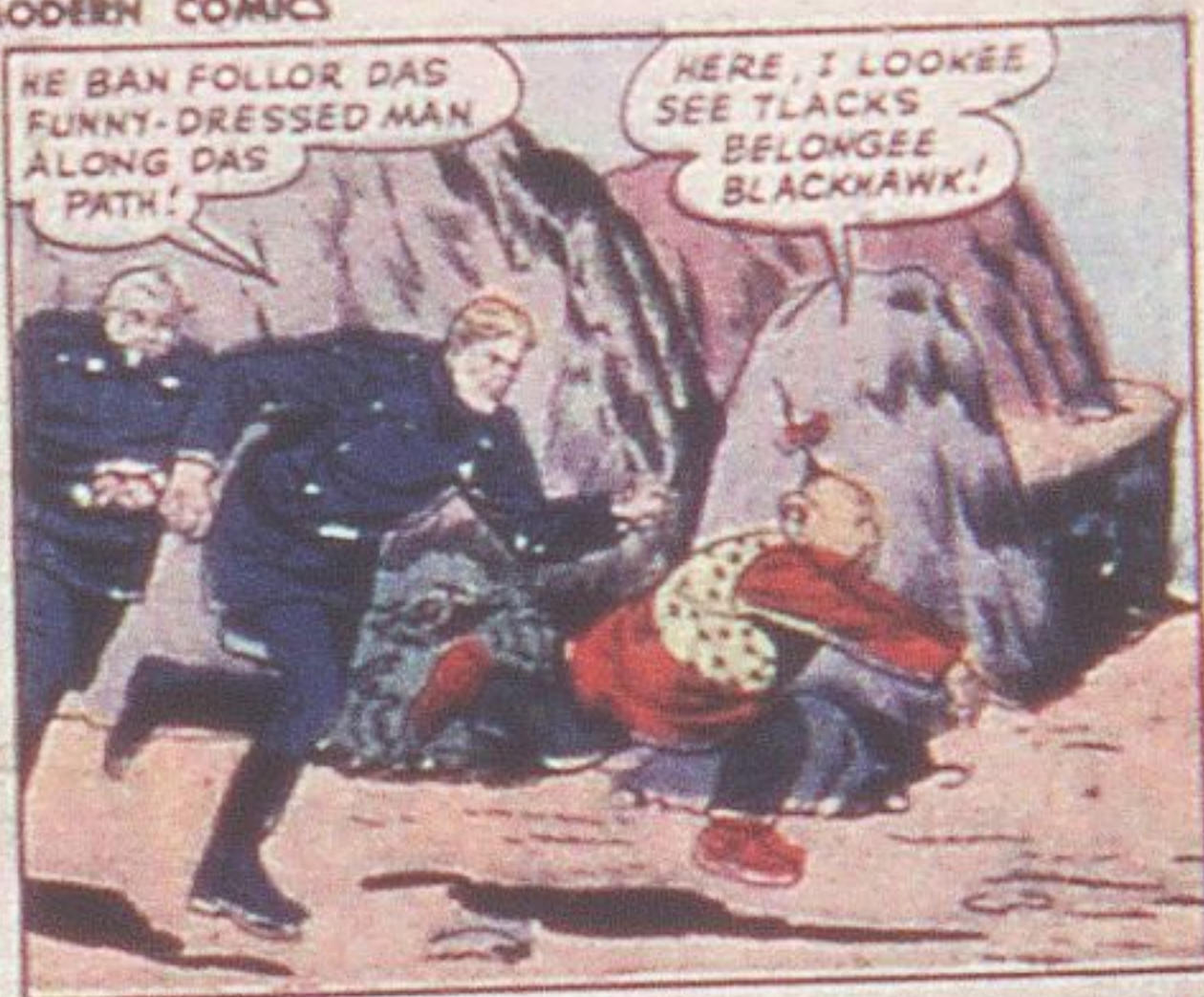
WE IN KRAFORA
KNOW NOT! WE
ONLY OBEY FATE'S
WILL...OR PERISH
AS DID THESE!

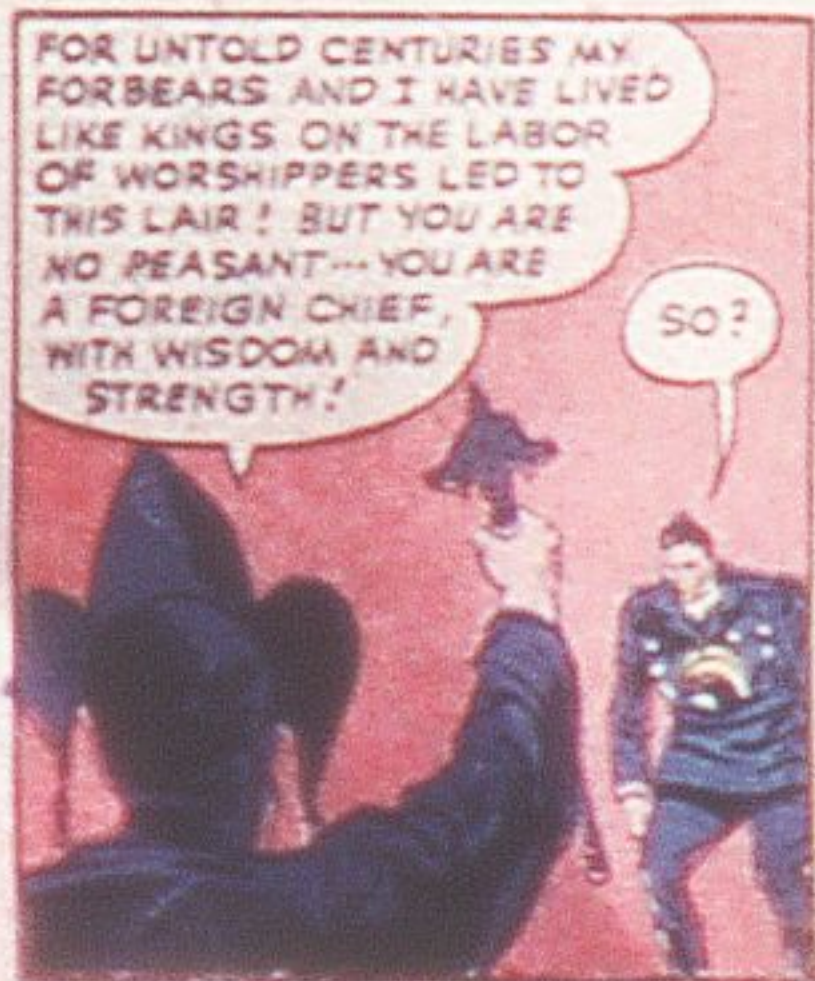
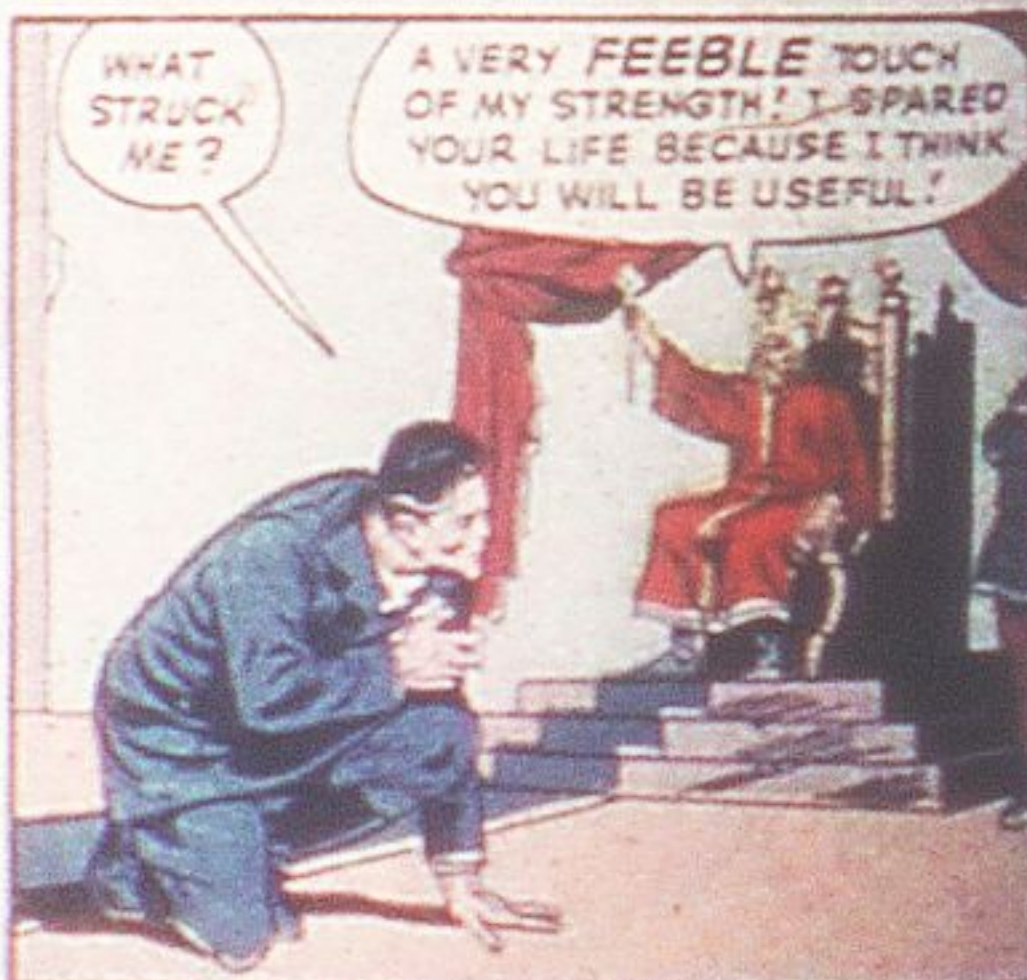
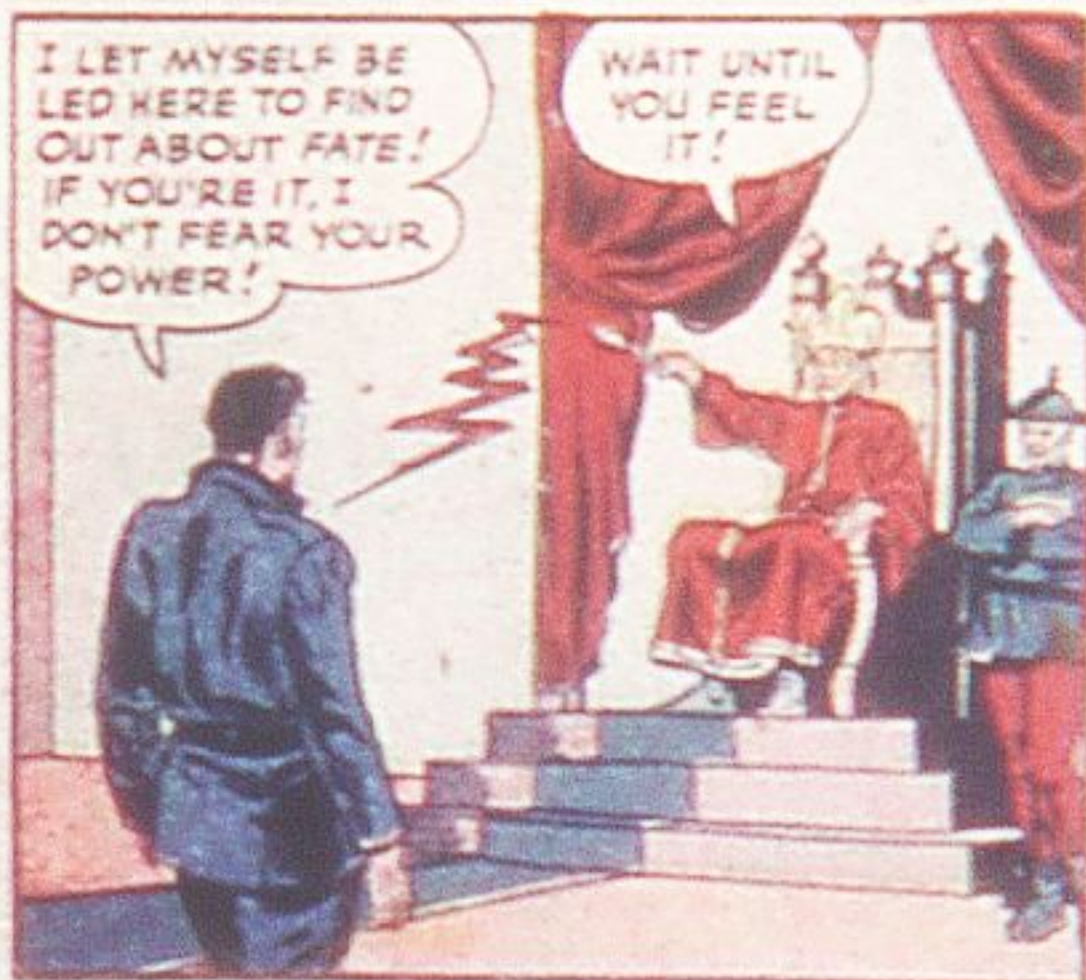














YES! HE CARRIES BATTERIES AND GADGETS TO EXERT RADIO POWER! WHEN HE WAVES HIS HAND, THIS TERMINAL AT HIS WRIST SENDS OUT BEAMS!

AND WHOEVER WEARS ONE OF THOSE AMULETS RECEIVES THE SHOCK! SIMPLE, WHEN YOU FIND IT OUT!

NOW ALL I HAVE TO DO IS FIGHT MY WAY OUT OF THIS CAVERN FULL OF HEATHEN HOODLUMS!



The other Blackhawks are still perplexed, when...

WE MUST FIND BLACKHAWK! BUT WHERE?

QUICK! HIDE! ALONG PATH COME ANOTHER MESSENGER... BRINGEE MAN TO FATE!



WHERE DO WE GO, SERVANT OF FATE?

FOLLOW ME INTO THIS ROCK!



ONE SIDE, BY YUPITER! WE BAN WANT TO SAVE BLACKHAWK!

EN AVANT, MES AMIS!

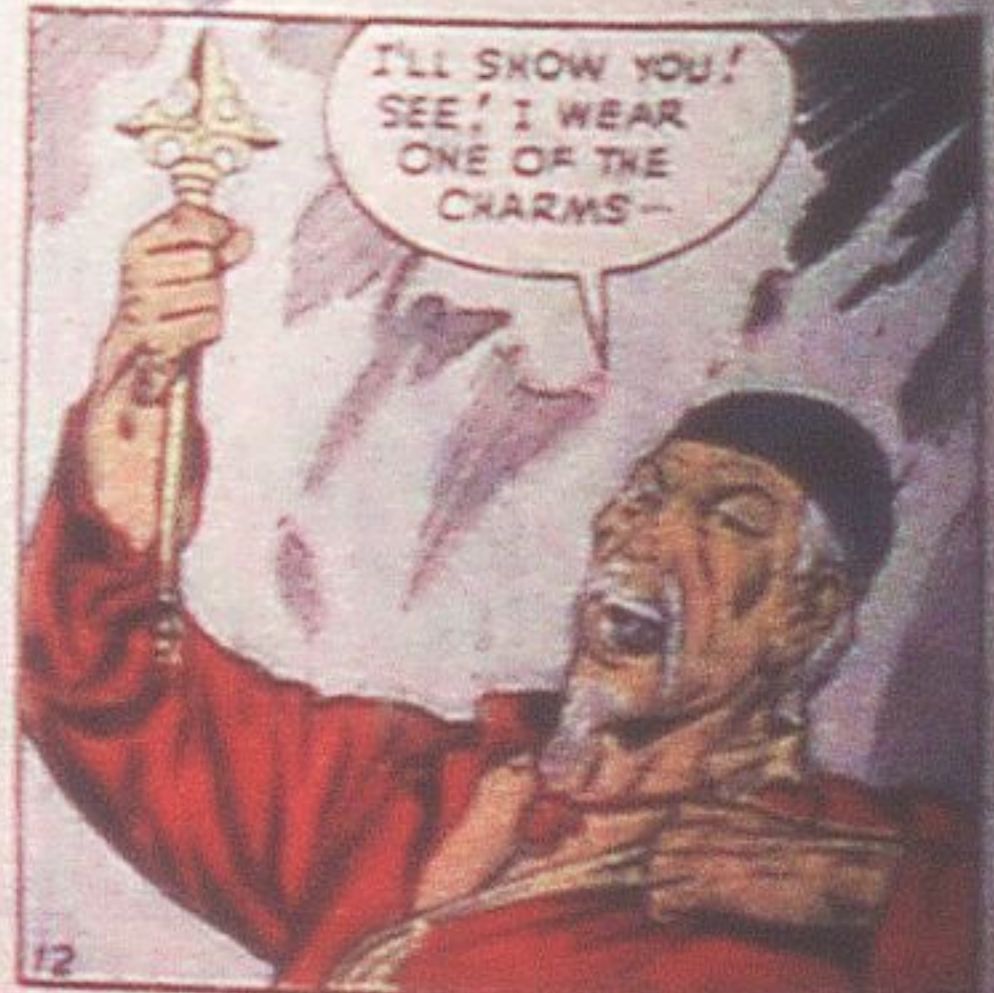


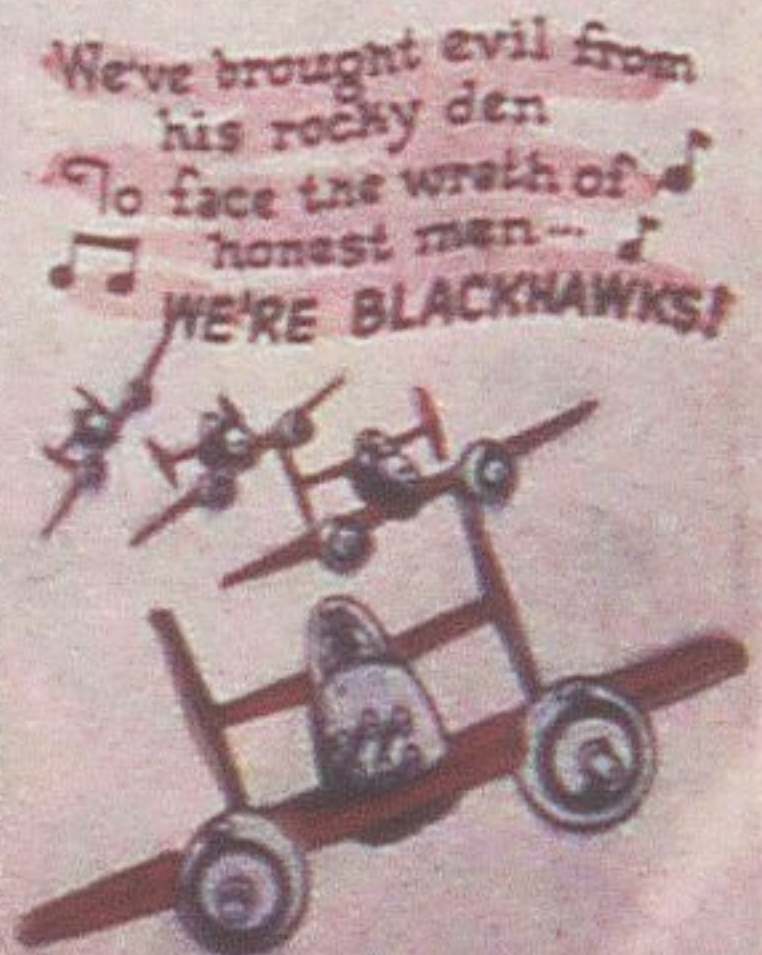
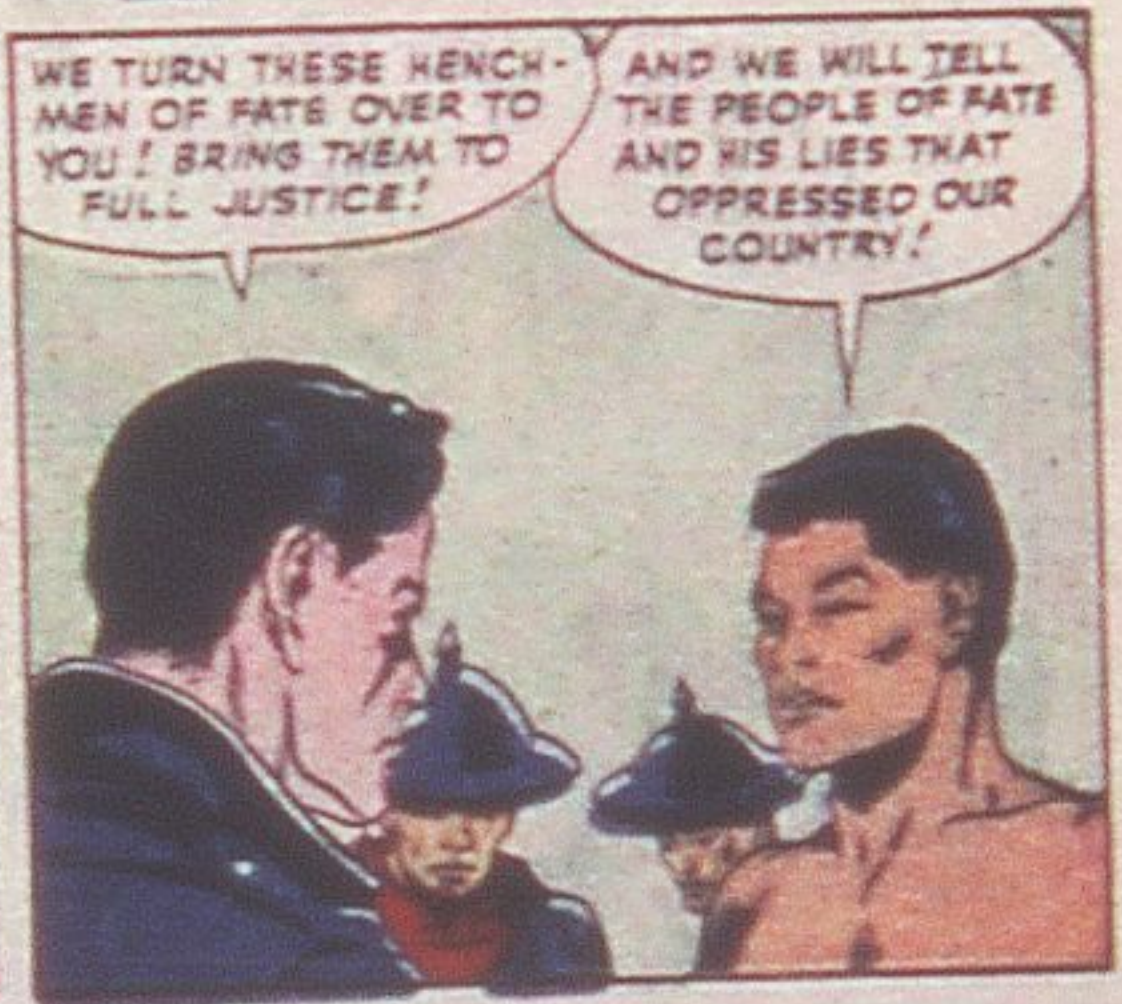
WHO COMES?

ZE BLACKHAWKS! YOUR RADIO TRICKS WEEL NOT HARM US-- WE DO NOT WEAR ZE CHARMS TO GUIDE ZE RAYS TO OUR HEARTS!

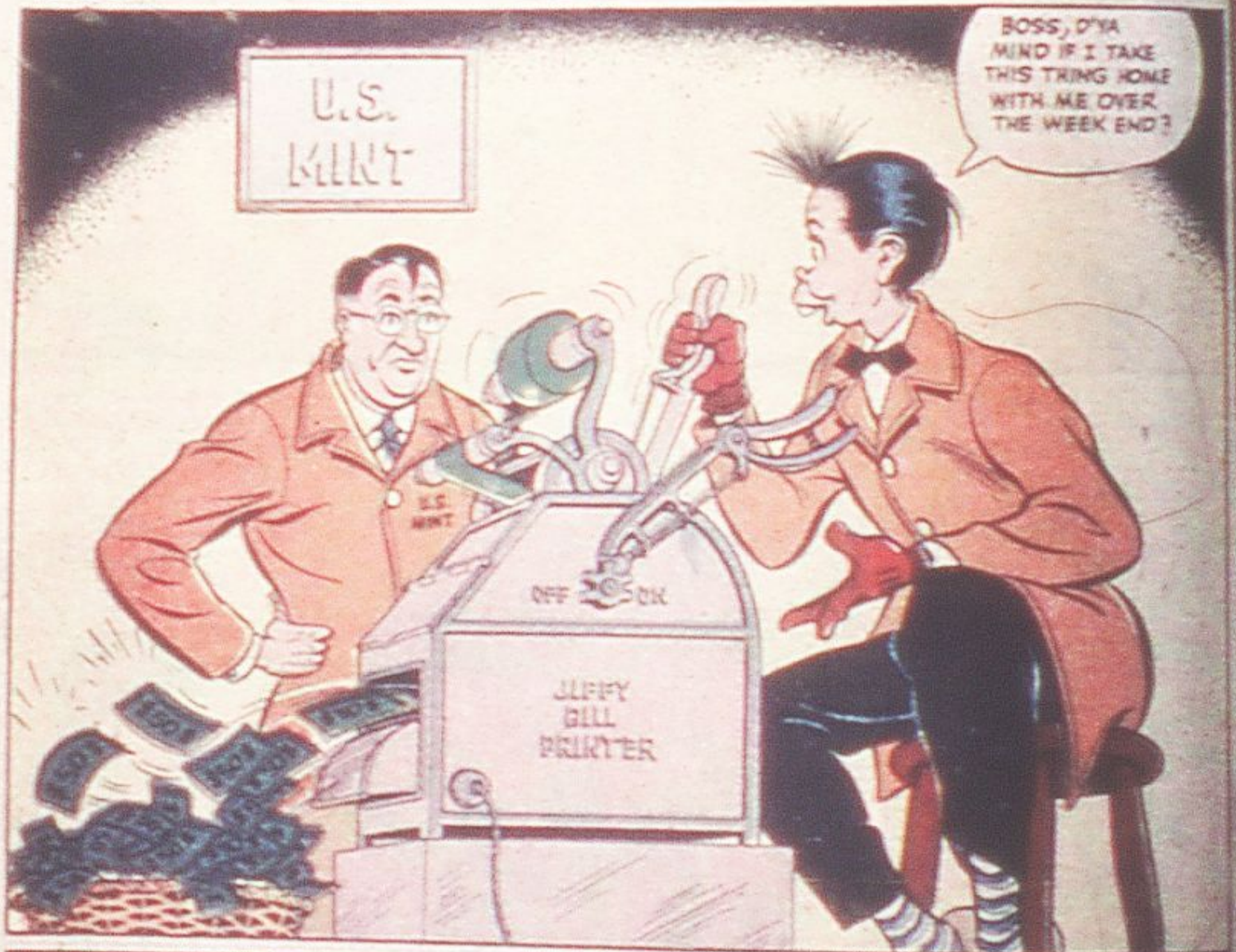






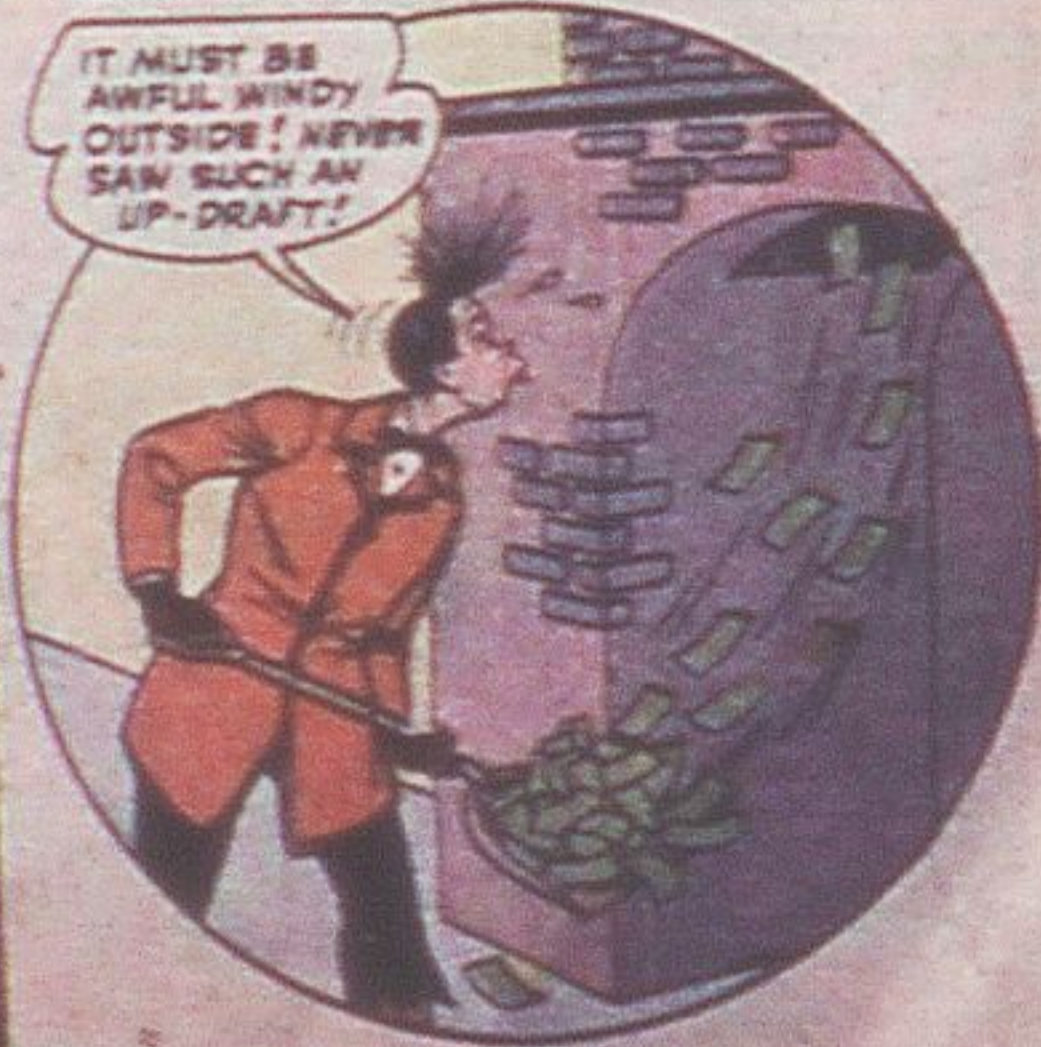


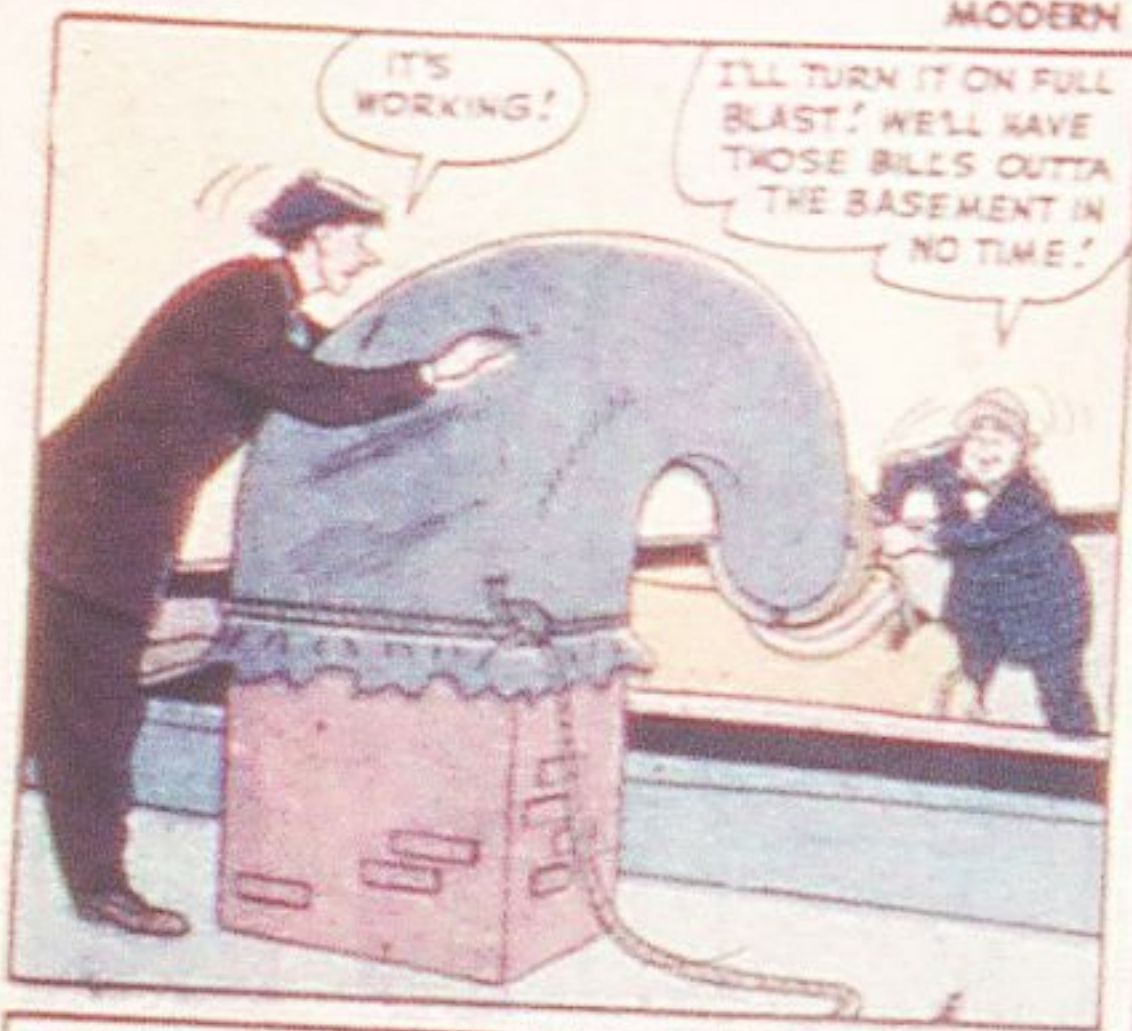
DOGTAG

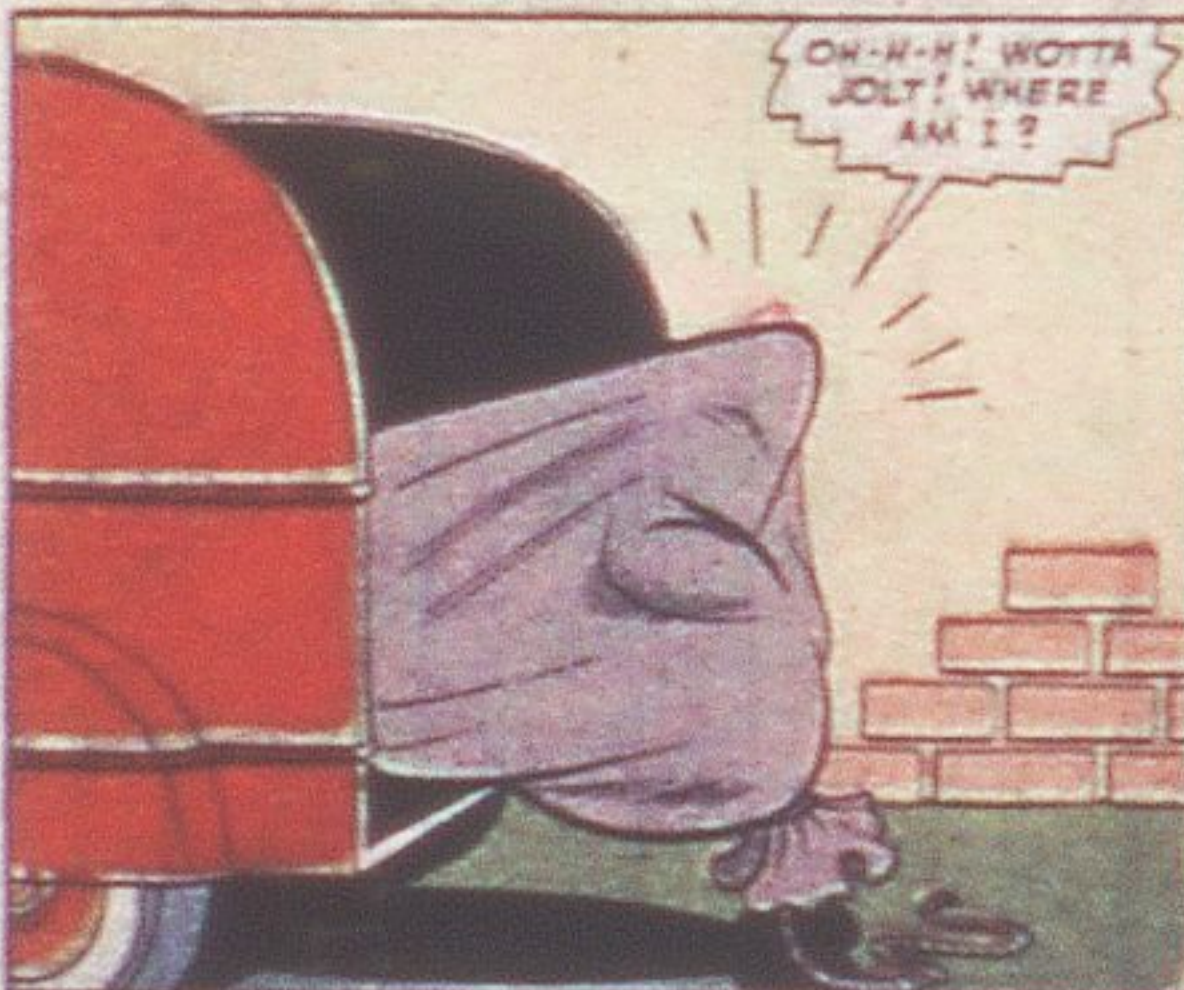
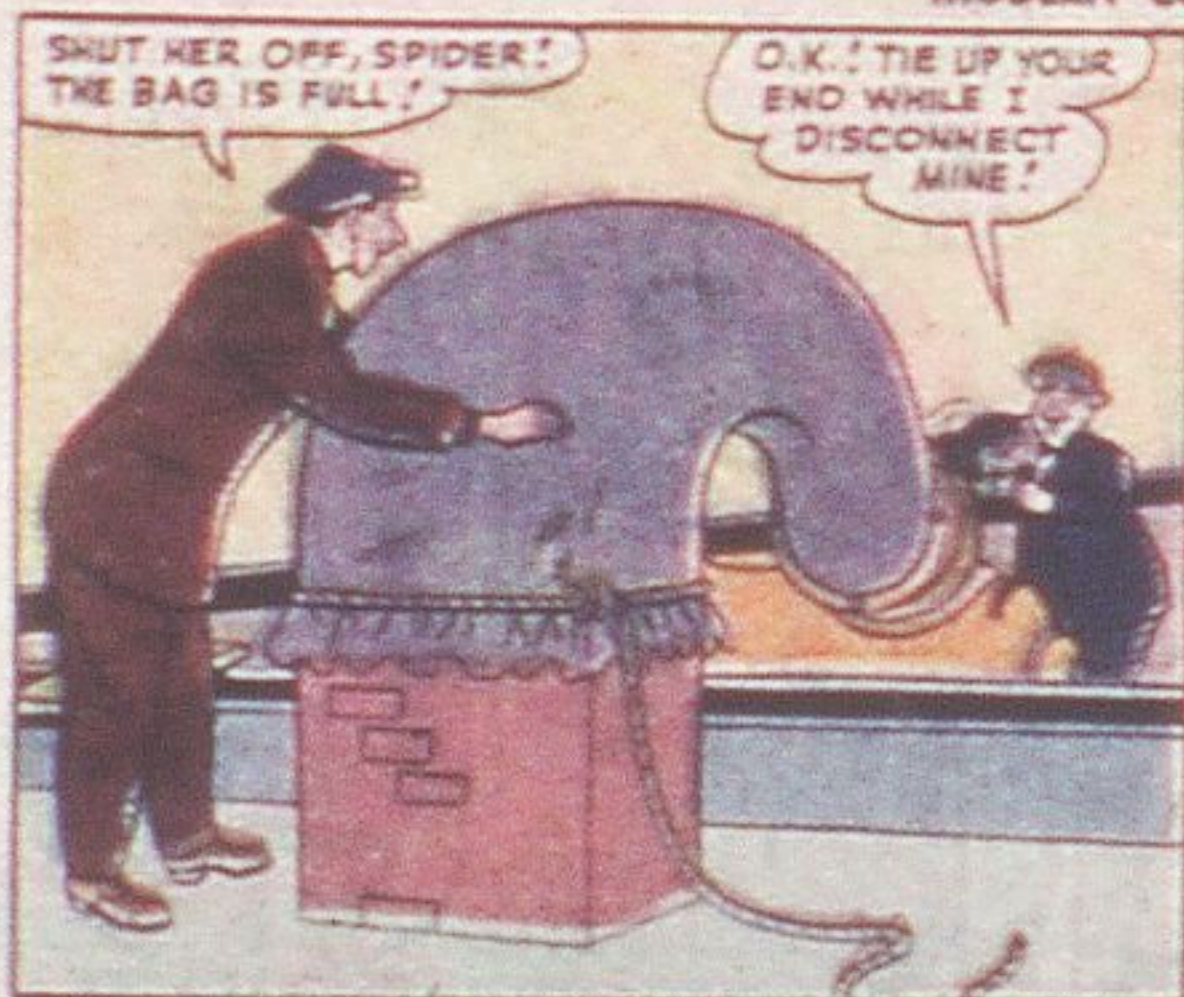












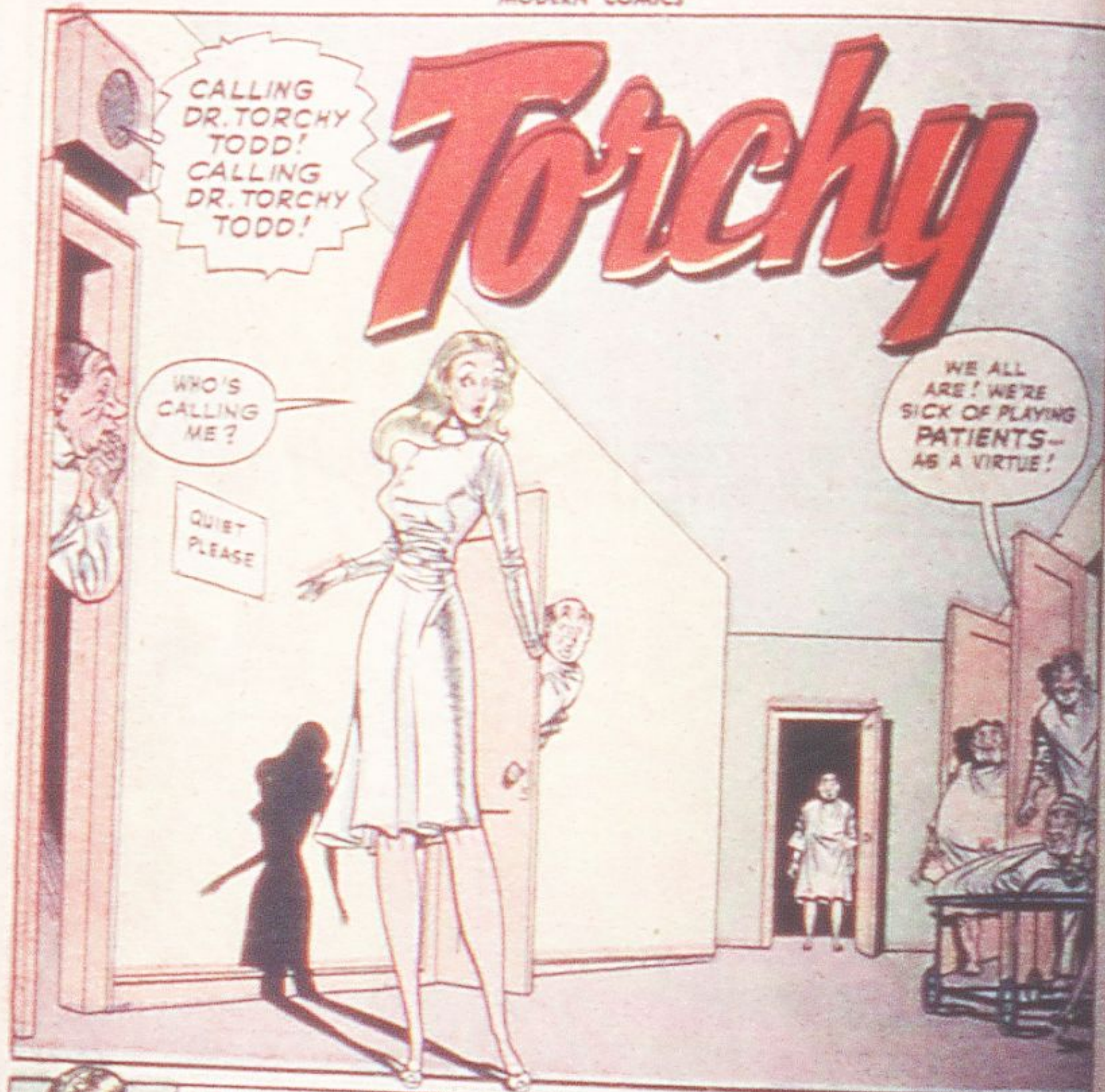
Torchy

CALLING
DR. TORCHY
TODD!
CALLING
DR. TORCHY
TODD!

WHO'S
CALLING
ME?

QUIET
PLEASE

WE ALL
ARE! WE'RE
SICK OF PLAYING
PATIENTS—
AS A VIRTUE!



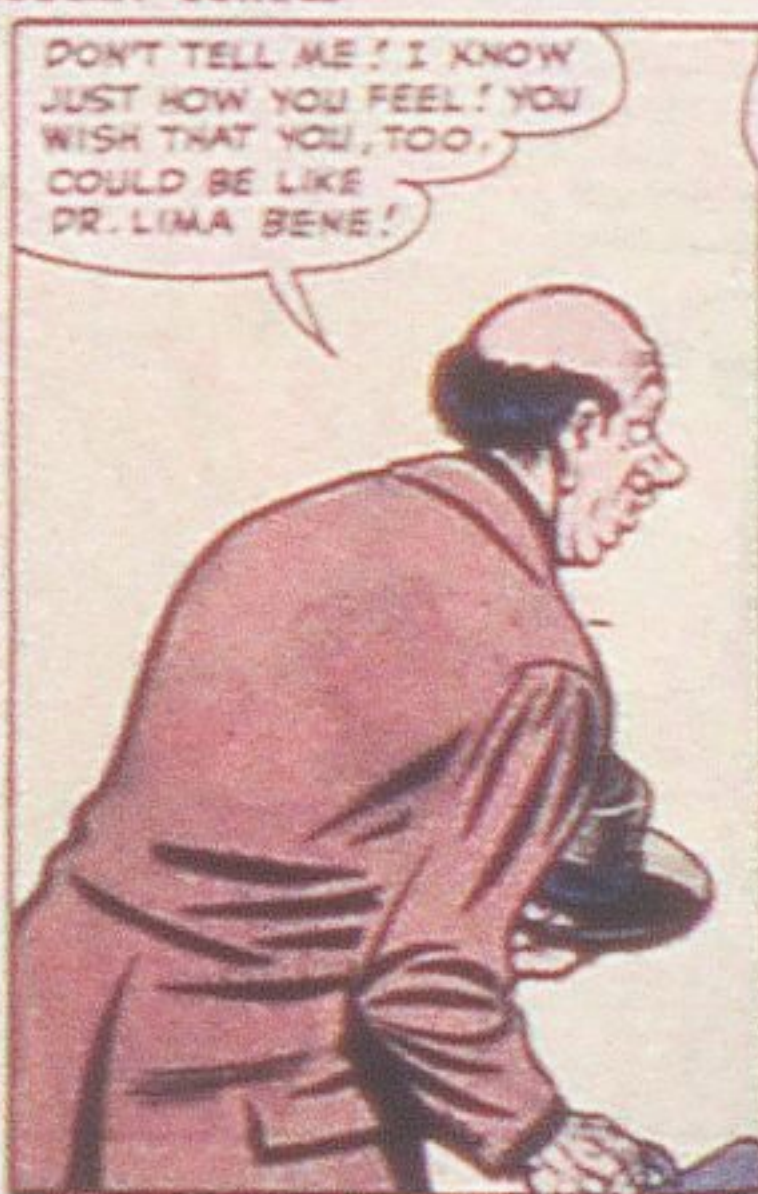
AND SO WE CONCLUDE ANOTHER
ADVENTURE IN THE LIFE OF DR. LIMA
BENE, LADY PHYSICIAN! LISTEN AGAIN
TOMORROW TO ANOTHER EPISODE IN THE
CAREERS OF DR. LIMA BENE AND
HER ROMANTIC COLLEAGUE,
DR. FRISBY
MILDAIR!

SUCH HEROISM! SUCH SELF-SACRIFICE!
IT MAKES MY LIFE SEEM SO USELESS!
IF ONLY I WERE A DOCTOR
LIKE DR. LIMA BENE!





AH! THE THEME MUSIC FROM THE DR. LIMA BENE PROGRAM! IF A DAME'S BEEN LISTENING TO THAT SHOW, I'VE GOT ME A PROSPECT!



DON'T TELL ME! I KNOW JUST HOW YOU FEEL! YOU WISH THAT YOU, TOO, COULD BE LIKE DR. LIMA BENE!



HOW DID YOU KNOW?



AH, I CAN SEE YOU'RE THE SERIOUS TYPE, WITH THE SCIENTIFIC MIND! IN SHORT, YOU'D BE A PERFECT LADY DOCTOR!

HOW WELL YOU UNDERSTAND ME! BUT ALAS, IT'S TOO LATE!



IT'S NEVER TOO LATE! I'M PROFESSOR PIRK, DEAN OF THE PIRK COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS! I'LL MAKE A DOCTOR OF YOU!

YOU WILL? YOU MEAN I CAN GET AN M.D. AT YOUR COLLEGE? BUT IT'LL TAKE SO MANY YEARS!



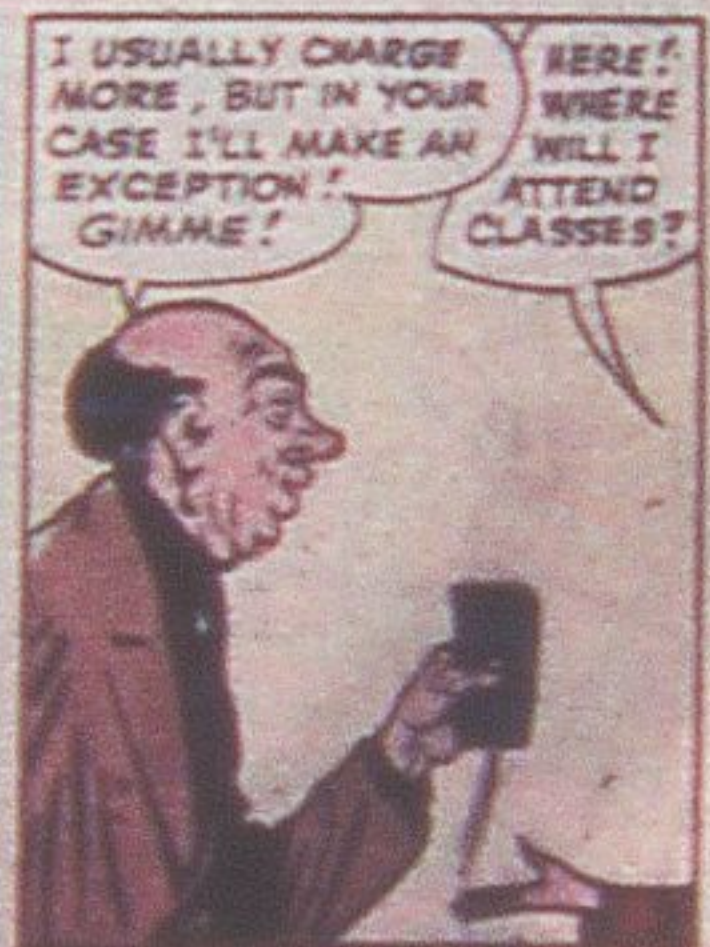
HARLUMP! IT'S NOT AN M.D. EXACTLY! IT'S BETTER! I GIVE A COURSE LEADING TO THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF MEDICARSIS, AND YOU LEARN EVERYTHING IN ONE WEEK!

GOLLY! THAT'S WONDERFUL! HOW MUCH WILL IT COST?



HOW MUCH HAVE YOU GOT?

LET ME SEE! SIXTY-SIXTY-ONE-- SIXTY-TWO DOLLARS! IT'S ALL THE MONEY I HAVE IN THE WORLD!



I USUALLY CHARGE MORE, BUT IN YOUR CASE I'LL MAKE AN EXCEPTION! GIMME!

HERE! WHERE WILL I ATTEND CLASSES?



I ALWAYS HAVE MY STUDENTS STUDY RIGHT AT HOME! THEY'RE HAPPIER THERE! HERE'S YOUR TEXTBOOK!

OH, THANK YOU!



I'LL BE BACK NEXT WEEK WITH YOUR DIPLOMA! AND NOW THAT I THINK OF IT, I'D BETTER GET YOU AN OFFICE IN WHICH TO PRACTICE!

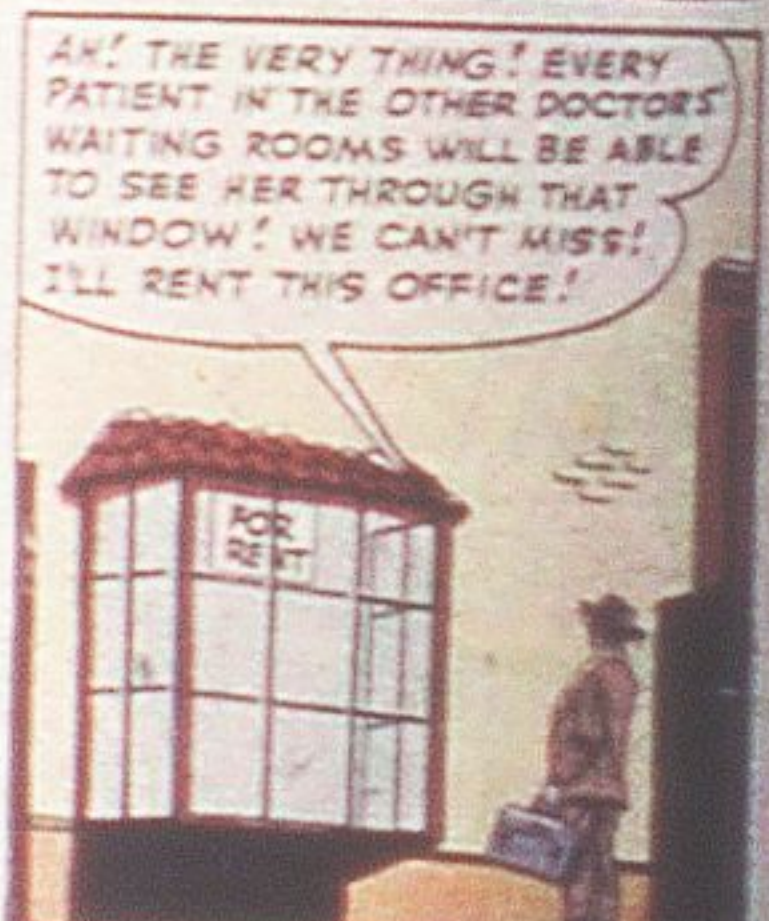
OH PROFESSOR! YOU'RE SO KIND!



KIND, SHE SAYS! I SHOULD LET A DOLL LIKE THAT OUT OF MY HANDS AFTER GETTING ONLY SIXTY-TWO BUCKS OUT OF HER! NOT PILL BOX PERK, OR I'M NOT AS PROFESSIONAL AS I THINK I AM!



A DOCTORS' STREET! NOW IF I CAN FIND THE RIGHT KIND OF OFFICE FOR HER WE'LL CLEAN UP!



AH! THE VERY THING! EVERY PATIENT IN THE OTHER DOCTORS' WAITING ROOMS WILL BE ABLE TO SEE HER THROUGH THAT WINDOW! WE CAN'T MISS! I'LL RENT THIS OFFICE!



A week goes by...

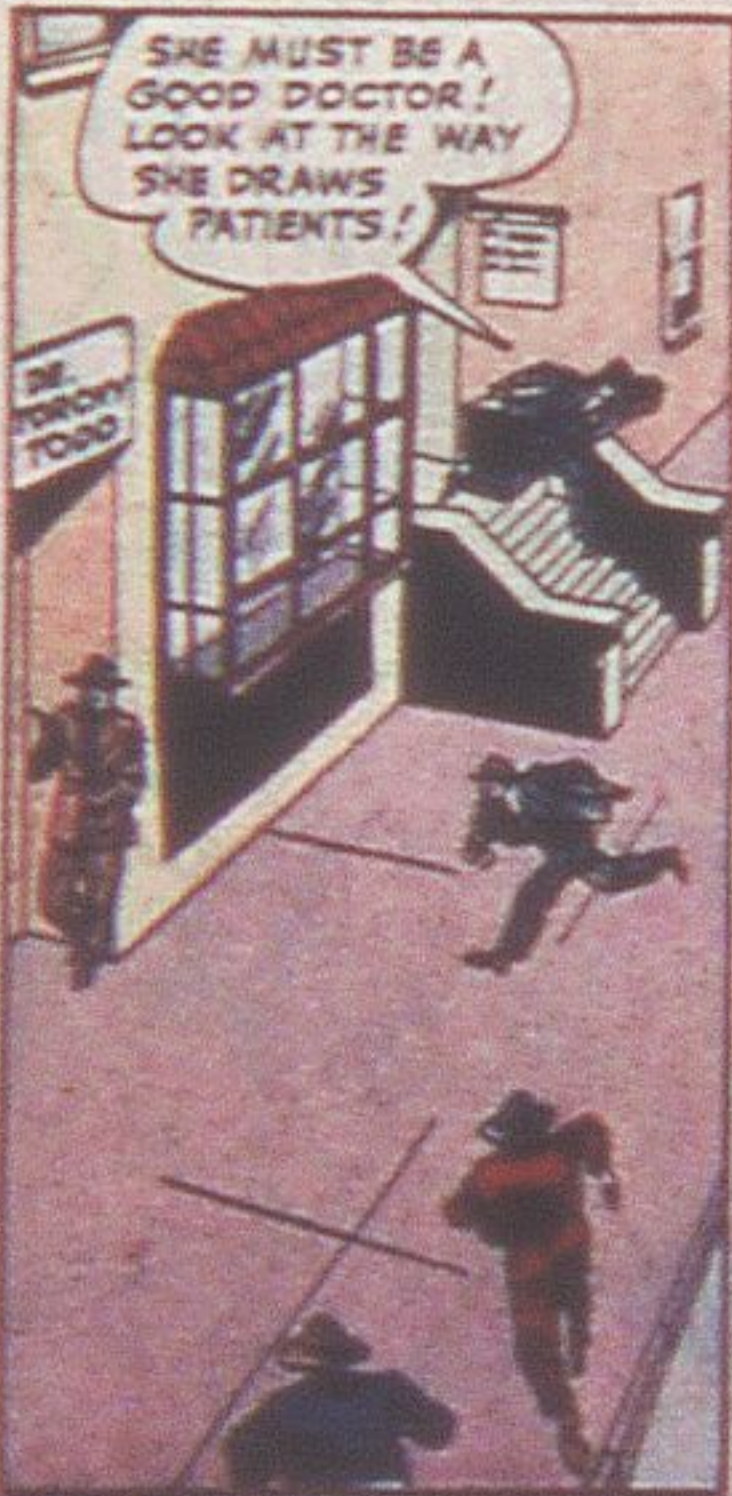
HERE'S YOUR DIPLOMA! AND I'VE GOT YOUR OFFICE! WE'RE ALL SET!

PROFESSOR, YOU THINK OF EVERYTHING! BUT YOU DO LOOK A LITTLE TIRED! I'D BETTER TAKE YOUR PULSE!

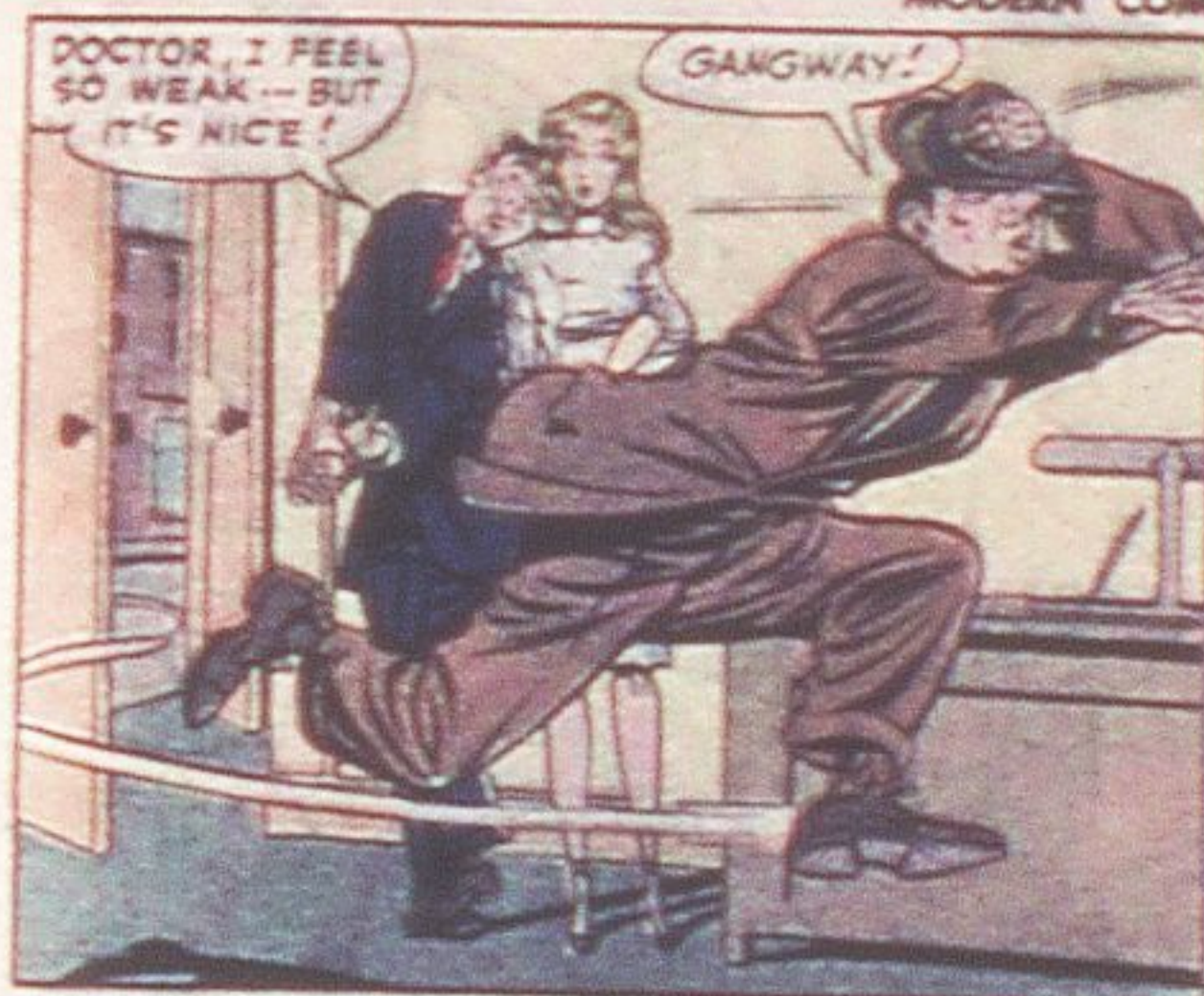


H'MM!

A MAN DOES GET WORN OUT FIGURING ANGLES ALL THE TIME, BUT I FEEL AS GOOD AS NEW NOW, DOCTOR! I CAN'T WAIT TO SHOW YOU YOUR OFFICE!







DOCTOR, I FEEL SO WEAK— BUT IT'S NICE!

GANGWAY!



STOP THAT CROOK! IT'S PEOPLE LIKE HIM WHO MAKE THINGS TOUGH FOR US QUACKS— ER— GULP! I MEAN, PHYSICIANS!

A CROOK! GOODNESS! AND I TRUSTED HIM!



PARDON ME, DOCTOR! THESE OTHERS CAN WAIT! I'M PETER PUMMEL, DR. MILDAIR OF THE RADIO, Y'KNOW! NOW, ABOUT MY BROKEN ARM...

OH, DR. MILDAIR, HOW AWFUL! WHO WOULD WANT TO BREAK YOUR ARM?



I WOULD, SISTER, BECAUSE DR. MILDAIR ALWAYS MANAGES TO RUN INTO PRETTY DOLLS LIKE YOU, NO MATTER WHETHER HE'S BUYING A CIGAR OR GOING TO A DOCTOR!

B-BUT WHO ARE YOU?



LIMA BENE TO YOU? LIZZIE PUMMEL IN REAL LIFE, AND I'M THIS PHONY'S WIFE! WHAT'S MORE, I'M GONNA BREAK UP YOUR PRACTICE AND YOUR JAW!

HALP! YOU WERE NEVER LIKE THIS ON THE RADIO!



OH, DEAR! AND TO THINK I WAS INSPIRED BY DR. LIMA BENE TO TAKE UP MEDICINE! ILLUSIONS! NOTHING BUT ILLUSIONS!

IF THEY CATCH US, IT WON'T BE AN ILLUSION, SISTER!



WE'VE SHAKEN THEM, BUT I HOPE THIS LITTLE EPISODE HASN'T SHAKEN YOUR CONFIDENCE IN MEDICINE!

YOU'LL NEED A DENTIST, MISTER— WHEN I FINISH KNOCKING OUT YOUR TEETH!

Will Bragg



YOU DON'T SAY!

YEP—ROPED STEERS AND BROKE WILD HORSES! THEY USED TO CALL ME BRONCO BUSTIN' BRAGG!

KHAM! IN THAT CASE, COME AROUND SATURDAY, WILD WILL! THE LODGE IS SPONSORING A RODEO—YOU CAN HELP HANDLE THE CHUTES!

SHOOT'S? WITH RIFLES OR PISTOLS?

Saturday...

WE GOT SPURS THAT JINGLE, JINGLE, JINGLE!

OH, WILL—YOU BEAUTIFUL HE-MAN! HMPH!

'BYE-EE! I'LL SEE YOU AT THE RODEO!

GIT ALONG, LITTLE DOGIE—

TRICK RIDER, HE SAID! HA, HA, HA! I'LL BET THERE WAS NO TRICK TO IT IF HE RODE!

HAW, HAW, HAW!

HERE COMES WILL, NOW!

PIPE THE SETUP!

DUG IT OUT OF THE MOTHBALLS! I USED TO WEAR IT IN THE RODEO, WHEN I DID MY STEER-RIDING STUNT!

I'VE GOT TWENTY-FIVE BUCKS THAT SAYS YOU CAN'T STAY ON A STEER FOR FIVE MINUTES!

I DON'T PLAN TO ENTER THE EVENTS TODAY, BOYS! BUT IF I DID, I'D BE GLAD TO TAKE YOU ON!



WHAT AM I SAYING? I WOULDN'T RIDE A STEER FOR ANY AMOUNT OF MONEY!



WELL, COME ON! LET'S GET OVER TO THE CATTLE BARN AND HELP WITH THE CRITTERS!

OH--ER--SURE!



GOSH! I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE A TRICK ROPEO RIDER! WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME?

JUST--AH--MODEST, I GUESS!



I'LL GET YOU LOOSE! WHY DON'T YOU RIDE A STEER TODAY AND WIN THE BET FROM MR. SWENSON!

NO, GULLY--I'M OUT OF PRACTICE!



RIDE A STEER! I CAN'T EVEN STRADDLE A BOARD FENCE AND--UGH!



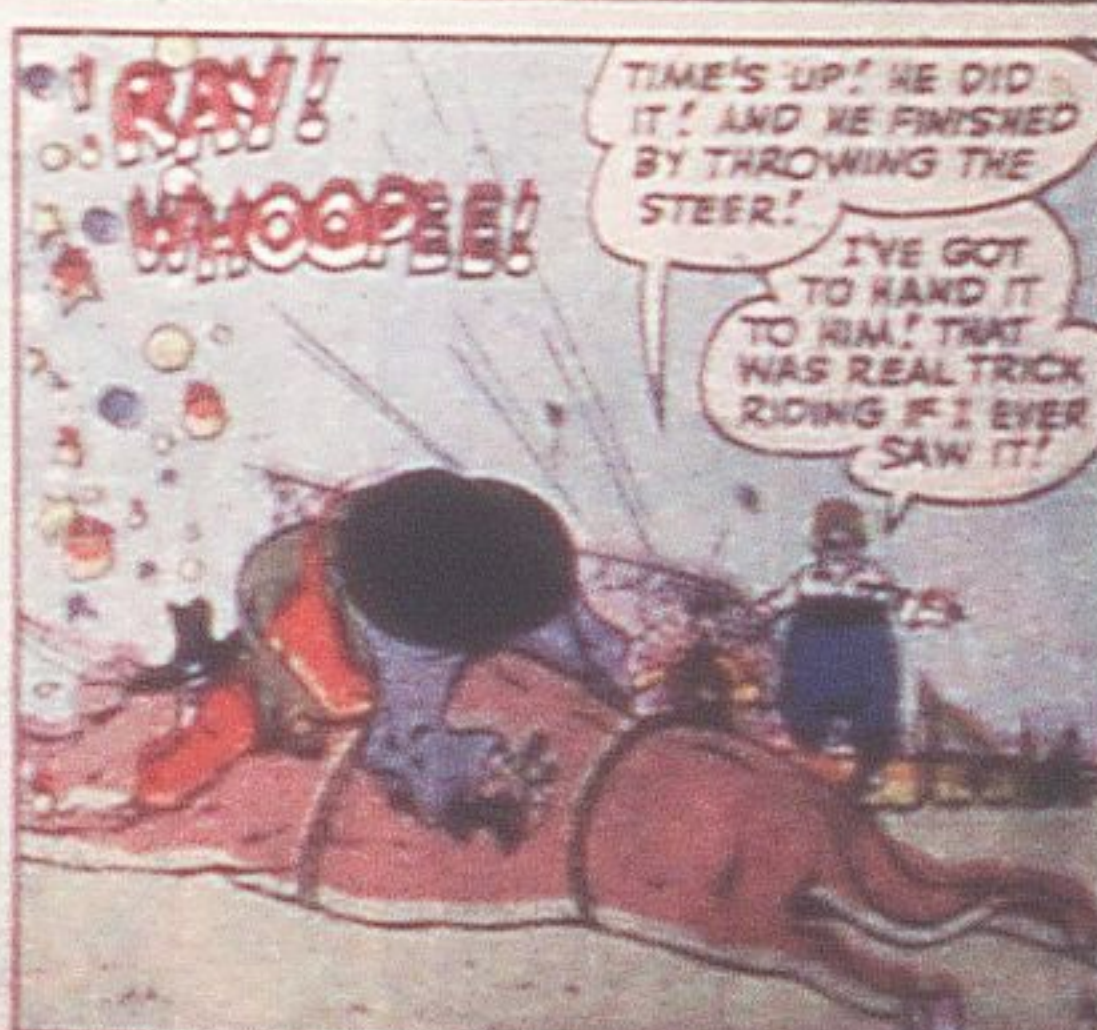
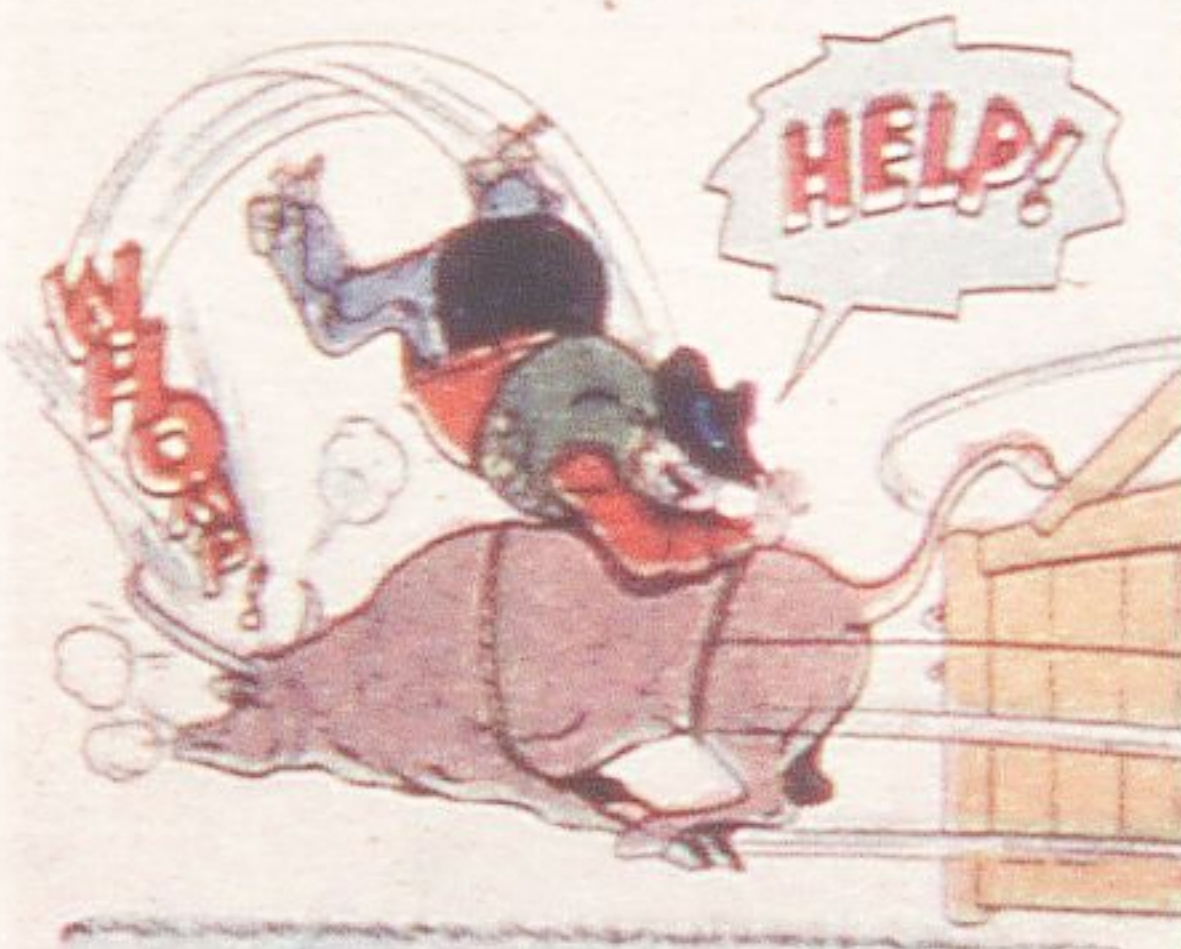
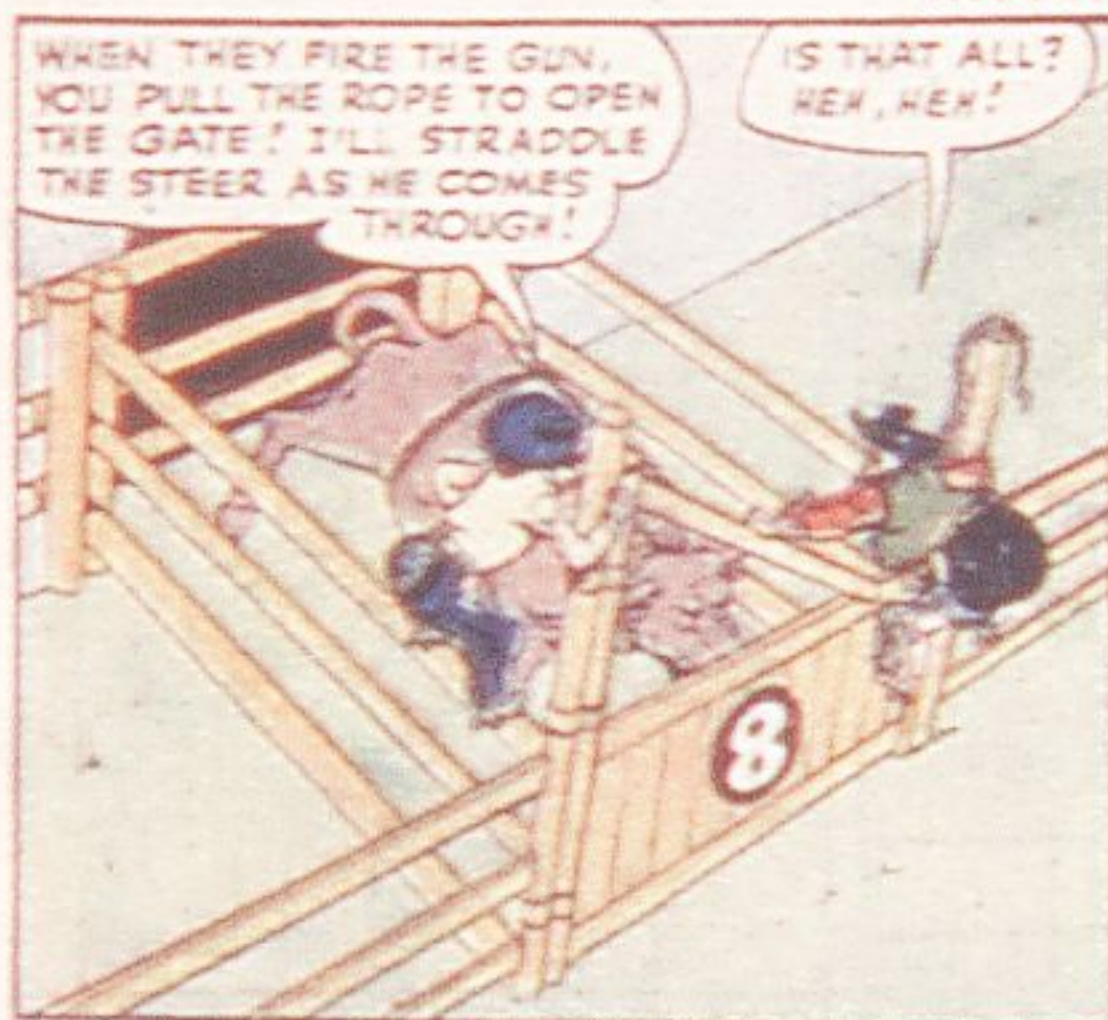
WHAT ARE WE--ER--SUPPOSED TO DO HERE, GULLY?

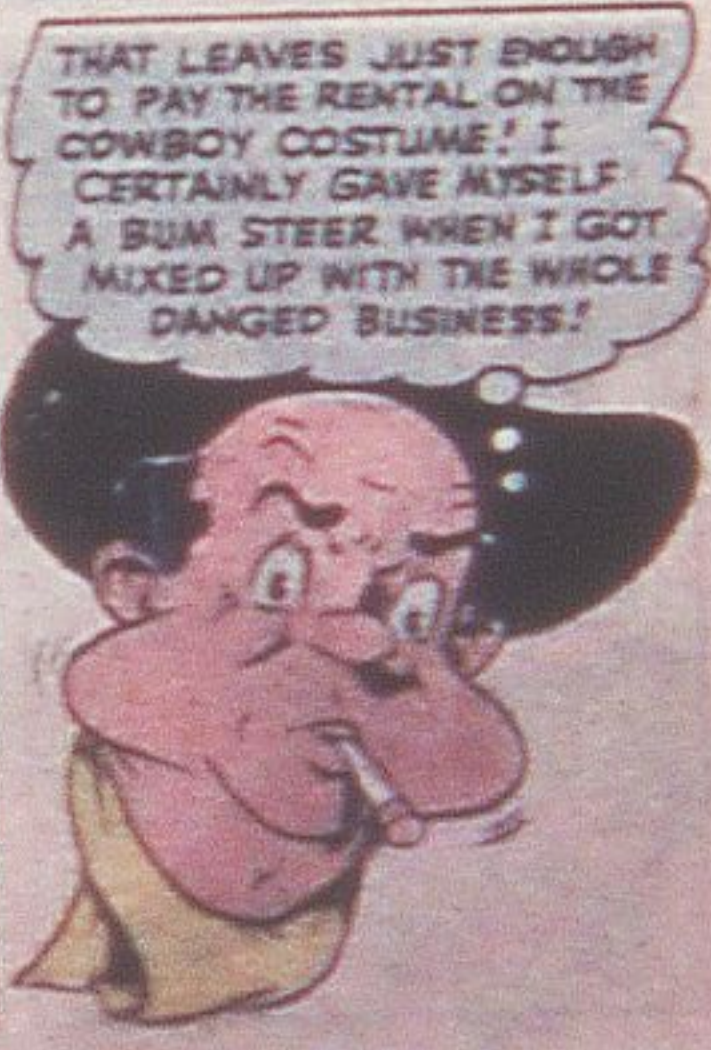
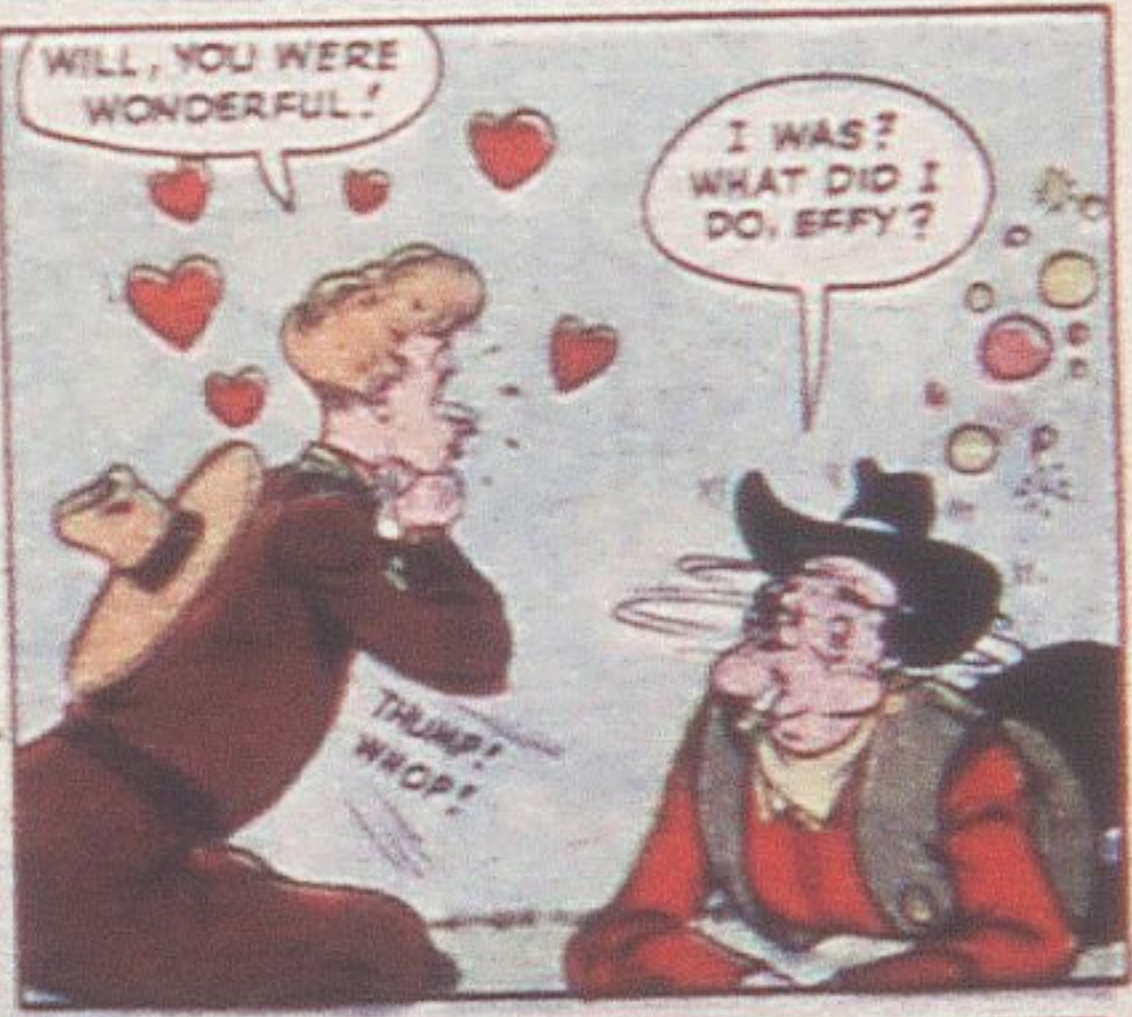
I DON'T KNOW! I THOUGHT YOU DID!



GULLY! LOOK OUT!



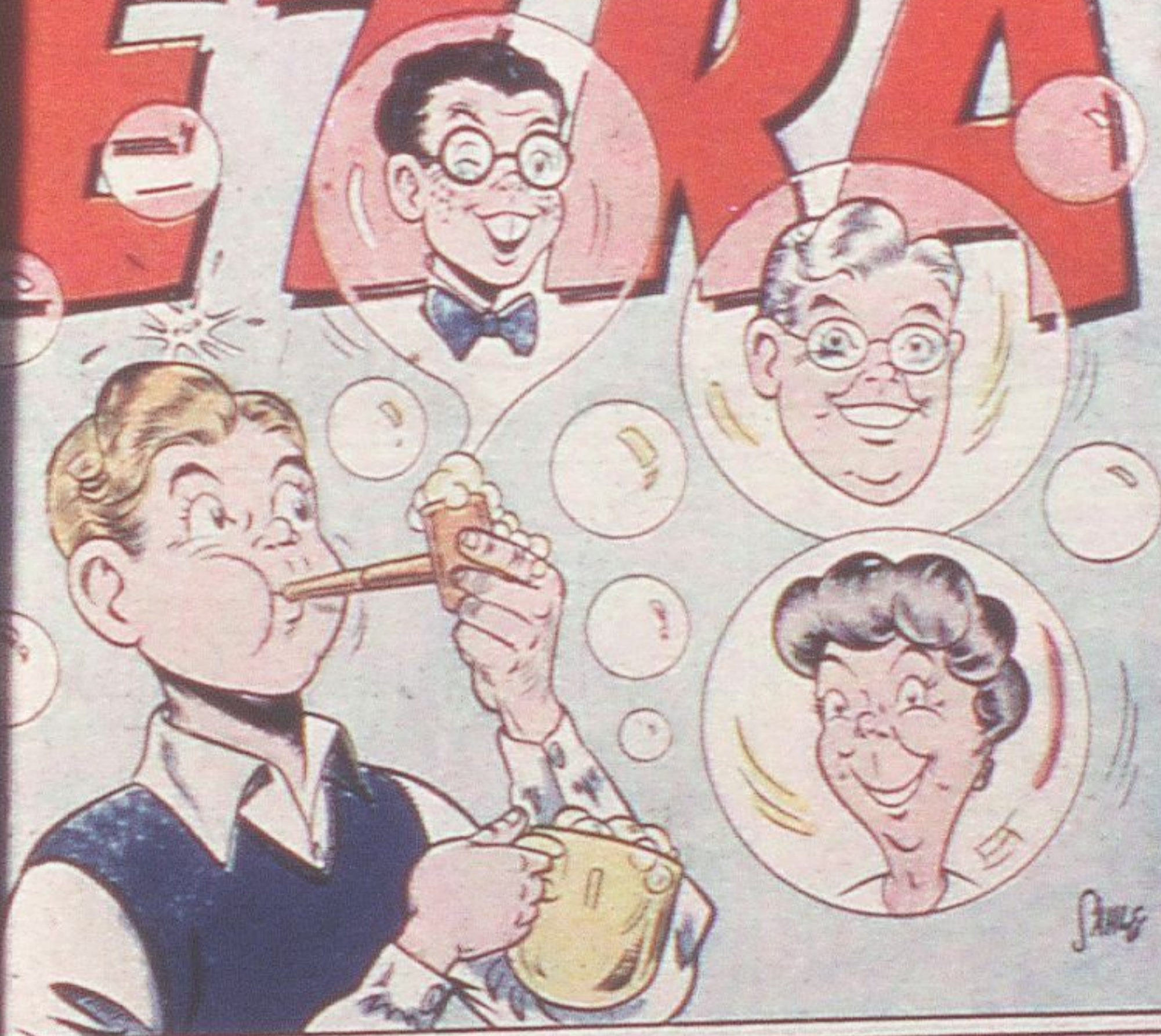




FUZZY



ETZRA



THIS WOBBLE
IS ABOUT
FOR THE JUNK
ROLLO!

YOU SAID IT, EZRA! IT'S HIGH
TIME FOR A REPLACEMENT—
EVEN THOUGH THESE ARE —
ER, HIGH TIMES!

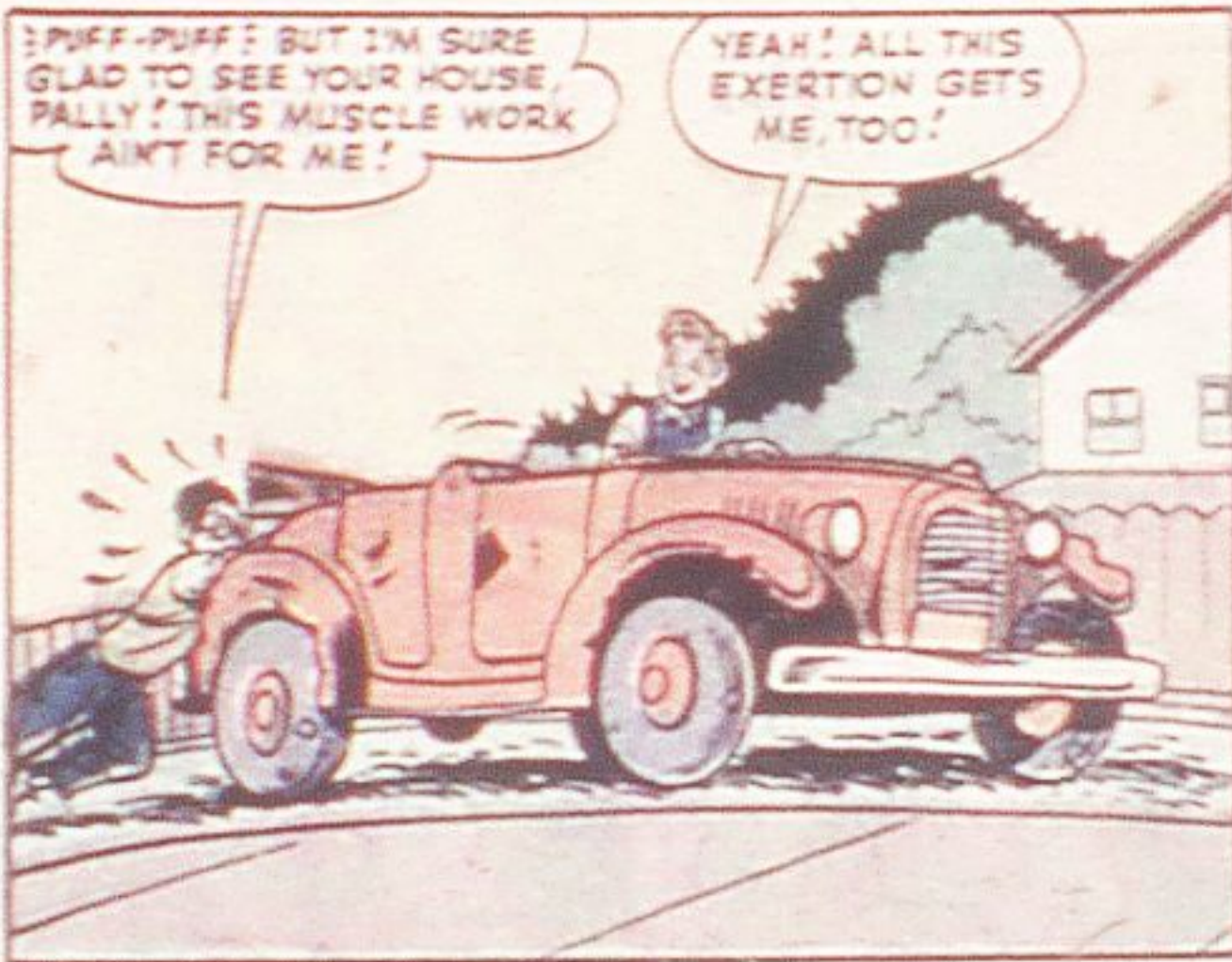
BANG!
BONK!

CHUG!
CHUG!
CLANK!
CLUNK!

THAT'S THE TROUBLE! JUST
WHERE WOULD I GET THE
CASH FOR A NEW CAR,
MUCH LESS ANOTHER
JALOPY?

I HAVEN'T QUITE
DREAMED UP AN
ANGLE FOR THAT
ONE! PROBLEMS OF
HIGH FINANCE
REQUIRE CONSIDER-
ABLE THOUGHT!





DEAR, YOU KNOW YOU HAVEN'T
A CHANCE IN A CONTEST THAT
E! NOT ONE IN A MILLION...
NO MILLION,
IN FACT!

I GUESS
YOU'RE RIGHT!
BUT IT'S SUCH A
LOVELY CAR AND
WE DO NEED A
NEW ONE!

THAT'S IT!
WE'LL WIN
IN A WALK!

IT'S SLOW
DOWN TO A
WALK FOR A
MINUTE, ROLLO!
WHAT MAKES YOU THINK
THE FLIMSY FLAKES
PEOPLE WOULD CHOOSE
OUR SLOGAN?

WHY, I'M THE BEST LITTLE
SLOGAN GRINDER IN THE
COUNTRY! TROT IN AND
BORROW YOUR MOTHER'S
NEWSPAPER, BUT DON'T
TELL HER WHY YOU
WANT IT!

OH,
ALL
RIGHT!
BUT I
STILL
THINK
IT'S A
WASTE
OF TIME!

OW'S THIS... "JUST A
FLASH IS ALL IT TAKES
TO WASH YOUR DUDS
IN FLIMSY FLAKES!"

KEY, FORGET IT! LOOK AT
THIS—YOU GOTTA SEND YOUR
PICTURE WITH THE ENTRY
AND YOU GOTTA BE A
HOUSEWIFE!

AWA! I HAVE THE SOLUTION
FOR THAT, TOO! A MERE
NOTHING!

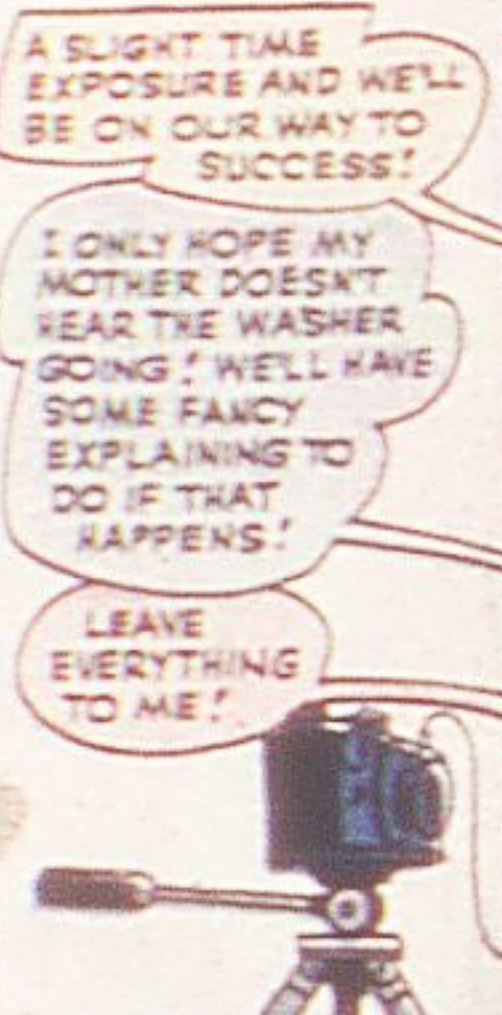
Soon...

YOU AND YOUR IDEAS! I DON'T
LOOK ANY MORE LIKE A HOUSE-
WIFE THAN A...

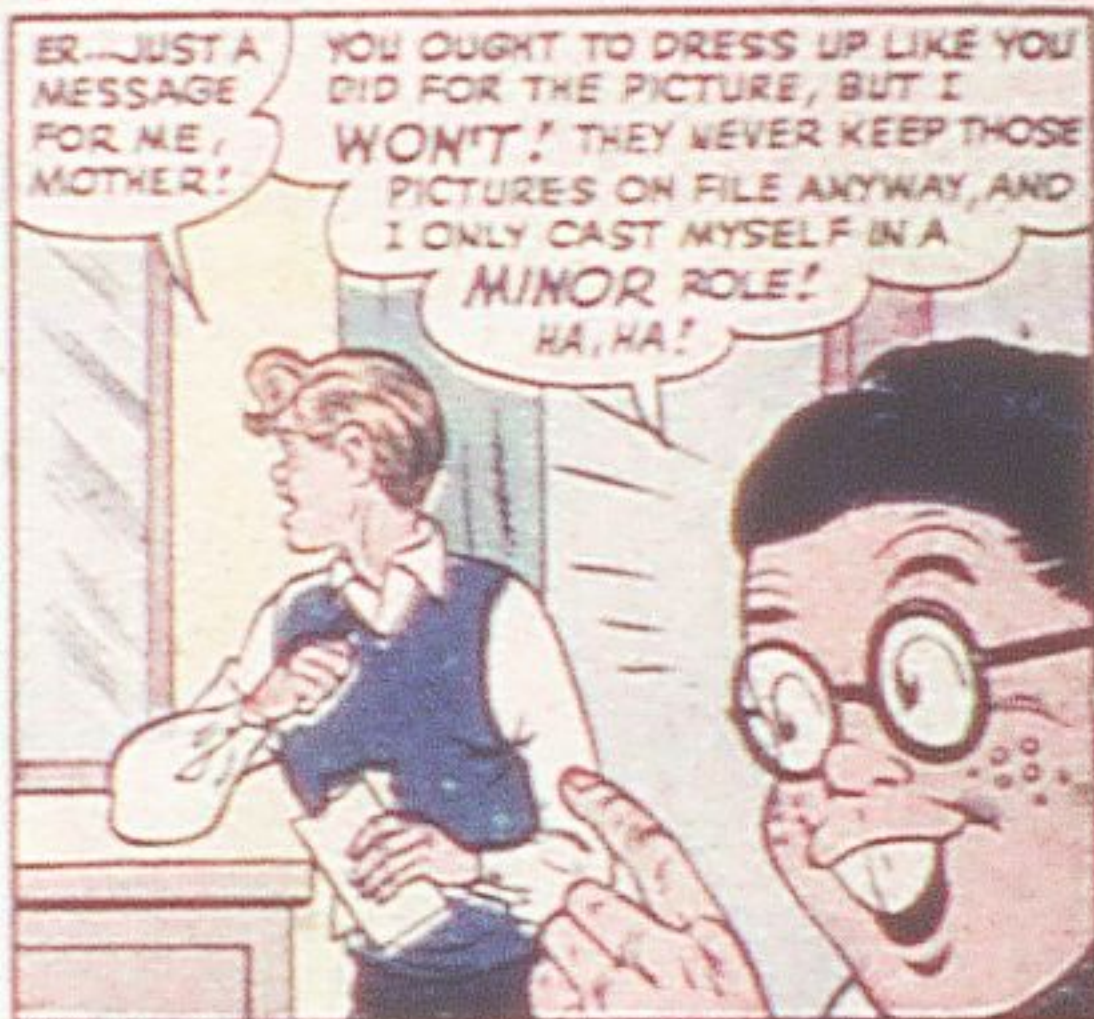
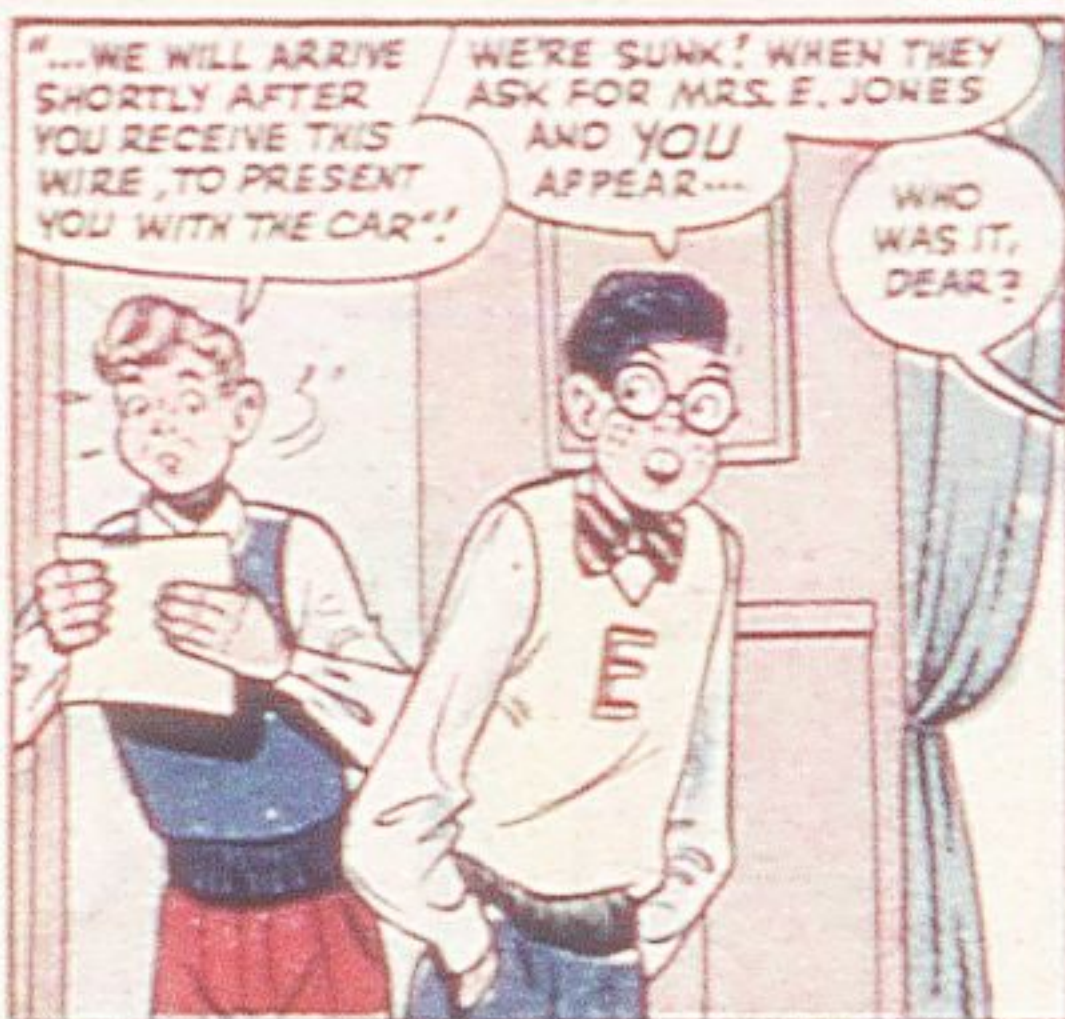
IF YOU
THINK YOU'RE
OUT OF
CHARACTER,
GLIM THIS
GETUP!

GOO
GOO!

EGAD! YOU'RE GOING
TOO FAR, ROLLO!
GOOING, GOOING,
GOON—THAT'S
MORE LIKE
IT!

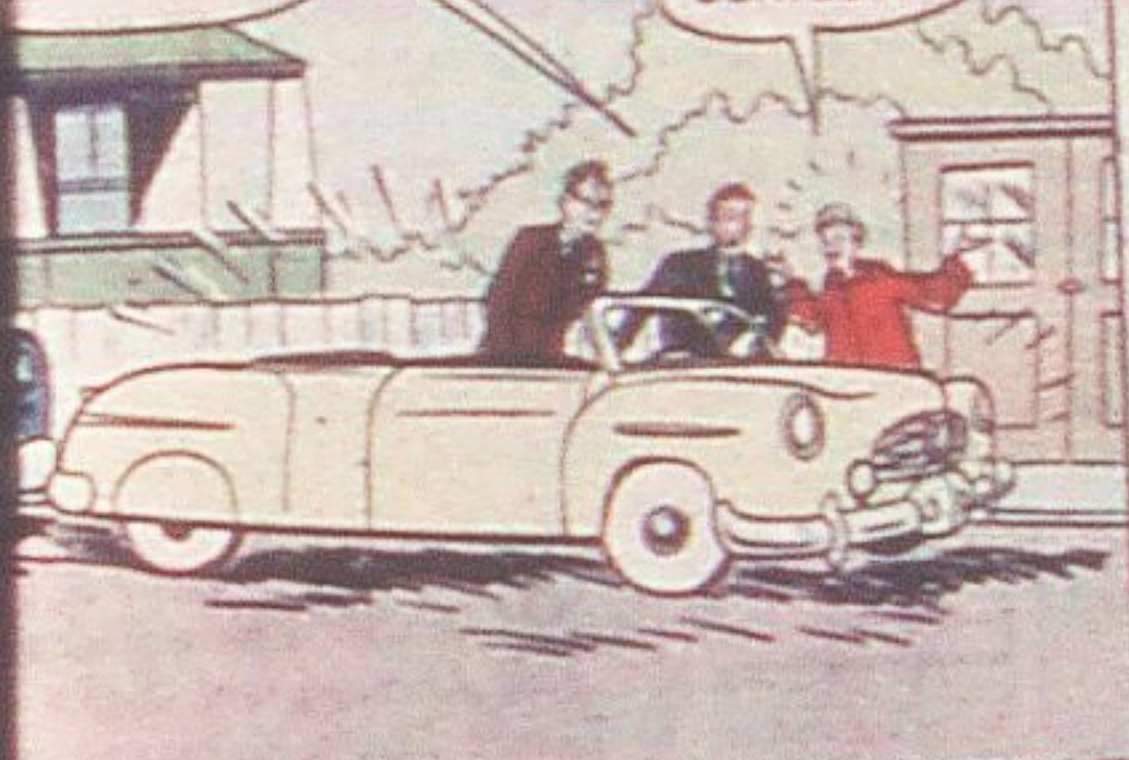






...ONES, WE'RE
TO AWARD YOU
LIMSY FLAKES
AUTOMOBILE!

ME? HOW PERFECTLY
WONDERFUL! AND I DIDN'T
EVEN TELL MY FAMILY
I'D ENTERED THE
CONTEST!

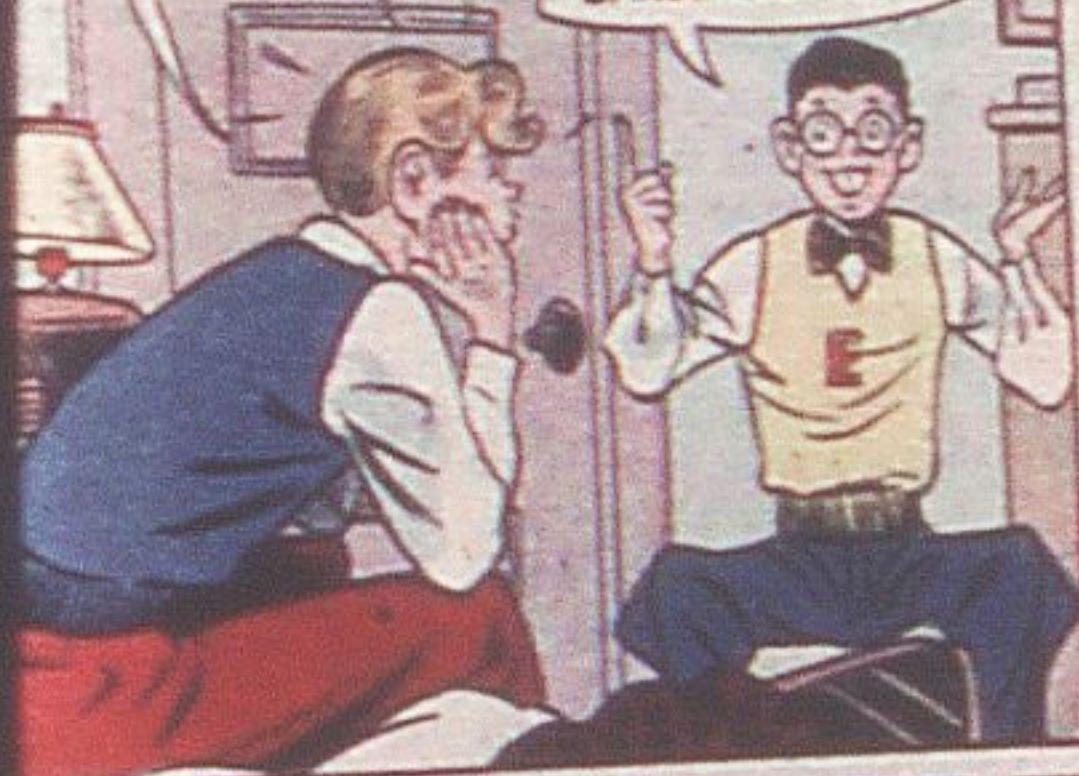


... AND FRED DARLING,
I WON THE CAR ALL
BY MYSELF!

THAT'S
WONDER-
FUL, MY DEAR!
I'LL BE HOME
IN JUST A
LITTLE
WHILE!

...N'T BREAK HER HEART
TELLING HER THAT IT WAS
ENTRY THAT WON!

OF COURSE NOT! BUT
HOW'S THIS FOR AN
IDEA... YOUR FATHER
WON'T WANT TWO
CARS, WILL HE?



HEY, YOU'RE RIGHT! I
CAN TALK HIM INTO GIVING
ME HIS OLD CAR!

WHY NOT! GET
HIM WHILE HE'S
STILL IN A GOOD
MOOD!



...H, FRED! YOU'RE
MAKING ME
DIZZY!

I MUST HAVE BEEN DIZZY
TO THINK YOU COULDN'T
WIN THAT CONTEST! AND
DO YOU KNOW WHAT I
JUST DID?

HEY,
POP...



I JUST DOUBLED OUR GOOD
FORTUNE BY SELLING THE
OLD CAR FOR A TERRIFIC
PROFIT! IT WAS A HUNCH,
THAT'S ALL, BUT IT REALLY
PAID OFF!

ULP!



Meadow Murder

THE Blackhawks heard of it first by radio, as they sat around their set on Blackhawk Island—only a routine news flash. "It is reported that the Transmanian ambassador is missing from his Washington Embassy." But Blackhawk whistled, and Stanislaus' eyebrows rose in inverted arcs.

"You think that means trouble?" asked Chuck, the American member of the crew.

"Ask Stan," Blackhawk replied, nodding toward the big Balkan. "He knows the temperament of these people, even if Transmania isn't his own country."

"Could be serious," Stan agreed. "If something really has happened to the man . . . and they wish to make trouble for our government."

"Weeth world conditions in their present troubled state," Andre the Frenchman sighed, "eet would not take much to stir up a real mess!"

Olaf, the Scandanavian, and Hendrickson, the Dutchman, nodded in agreement. Chop Chop, the little Chinese, studied the grave faces of the group and wiped the smile from his own cheerful countenance.

In an effort to find the elusive ambassador, the head of the police force in Washington and the top men in the FBI were coordinating their efforts under the direction of a high government official. The situation was critical. It became known that the Transmanian government was officially preparing to accuse the United States of having kidnaped the man.

A call for aid came from Washington to the Blackhawks. It told them little—simply that they, those unofficial patriots of the air who had brough so many evil-doers to justice, were desperately needed. They soon had their powerful transport plane in the air and headed for the mainland. The news that awaited them was sensational. The Transmanian ambassador had been found—dead! He had been mur-

dered. His corpse had been discovered in a meadow in a sparsely settled rural area.

"It's dynamite," Blackhawk explained to the others. "There's no doubt that the Transmanians are determined to create an international incident. So far, the discovery of the body has been kept secret, but that can't go on for long. If the murder is disclosed with no solution, the Transmanians will accuse our government of having had their ambassador killed. We can't take such an accusation as that without protest. The European nations will start lining up, taking sides. Somebody will go too far—and the whole mess'll blow up in the world's face. There's only one way to forestall trouble, and that's where we come in. We've got to solve the murder—right away! If we hand them the proof of who committed the crime at the same time the murder is first announced, they'll have to back down. But it can't be kept secret long!"

"Quick action!" exclaimed Chuck. "Well, that's our dish!"

"But where to start! Are there any clues at all?" Andre asked.

"First we'll fly to the spot where the body was discovered, and see what we can pick up," Blackhawk directed.

Arrived at the scene, the seven Blackhawks stood looking over a fence, surveying the spot. The meadow grew high with waving grass. About a hundred feet inside the fence was a small area in which the grass was flattened and crushed, an area where the man's body had lain. Leading to it was a narrow trail where the grass had been matted down by tramping feet.

"Footsteps in the mud under the grass!" exclaimed Olaf. "Dey show as plainly as der nose on my face."

es," said Blackhawk, "they show, all. But when the body was discovered, there was not a single footstep anywhere around it! The trail you see was made by the man who carried the body, and the police who carried it. No one could have gone near it without leaving a trail—yet originally there was no trail!"

"The body could have been dropped from a plane," Hendrickson suggested.

"That seems the most likely suggestion," Blackhawk agreed. "And yet it wasn't battered as one would expect if it had been dropped even from a low-flying plane."

"They interviewed the nearest neighbor, a turn farmer who declared that no planes whatsoever had been in the area the night before. He'd been up all night with a sick cow," said, and he would have heard any plane, especially a low-flying one.

"The farmer could have been lying or he could have fallen asleep; and yet, they all agreed, they couldn't help feeling that he was telling the truth."

"At Blackhawk's suggestion they took to the air again, searching the immediate area over which they flew. Blackhawk seemed to be working from some definite plan, but he insisted that it was too vague an idea to share yet. Then below them they spotted the lights of a carnival. Still following his hunch, Blackhawk landed the plane near by."

"When Blackhawk led the way to the carnival and bought tickets, the others exchanged surprised glances. And when he led them inside to take seats, they shook their heads in bewilderment. To watch a carnival when so much was at stake and the need for haste was so great . . . well, if it had been anyone but Blackhawk who had suggested it, they would have rebelled. But trusting him implicitly, they were willing to follow."

"The show did nothing to lessen Blackhawk's intentness. Whatever he had expected to find, the others could tell that he had not yet discovered it. It was only after they left the big tent that they surmised what he was driving at. An old countryman was arguing with the ticket seller. "But it was advertised on all the

posters!" he protested. "I want my money back! That's the one act I came to see—that human catapult!"

Quickly Blackhawk stepped over and seized the man's arm. "Did you say human catapult? Where is he?"

"Look," the carnival guy said in exasperation. "Can we help it if the man got sick? Didn't we give you plenty of other acts?"

"Let's see this sick guy," Blackhawk demanded. "And let's see his catapult, also."

After a look at his determined face, the ticket seller shrugged and led them back into the small tents where the carnival people lived. The rest of the Blackhawk crew followed. They were beginning to understand. Silently they filed into one of the tents, and stood around the bed staring at a little, black-eyed man who cowered beneath a sheet. Blackhawk had whispered a word to Stan as they entered, and now Stan barked a few words in an unintelligible tongue. Startled, the little man replied in the same language—and then clapped his hands over his mouth. But it was too late.

"He's a Transmanian, all right," Stanislaus said. It didn't take them long to find the contraption known as the "human catapult. A version of the old cannon trick, it slung a man high into the air, from where he ordinarily dropped into a net. But the Transmanian ambassador had dropped into a meadow!

Confronted with the evidence, the little man broke down and confessed. He had belonged to a deposed party in Transmania. His comrades had helped him to kidnap and kill the Transmanian ambassador, using the basis of his carnival act to create an insoluble crime. They had hoped to stir up an international incident, during which their party would again seize control of the Transmanian government.

They had reckoned without the Blackhawks, to whom no crime is insoluble. Back to Washington they flew, taking with them the little Transmanian to prove to the Transmanian government that it was their own countryman who had murdered the ambassador. Once more the Blackhawks had contributed to the peace and well-being of the world.



LOGAN SOUNDS BUSINESS - MAYBE THIS COMPANY WILL GET THE JOB!

INFORMATION LTD.
YOU NAME IT -
WE FIND IT!

AHEM!

WE ARE SORRY THAT WE CANNOT ACCOMMODATE YOU - BUT AT PRESENT WE ARE TOO BUSY TO CONSIDER IT! YOURS TRULY, INFORMATION LTD. - THAT WILL BE ALL!

SORRY TO HAVE KEPT YOU WAITING!

NOT AT ALL! NOW HERE'S MY PROPOSITION -

I'VE BEEN BALD FOR YEARS AND IT'S RUINED MY PERSONALITY! I'VE LOST MY CONFIDENCE!

YOU WANT ME TO FIND YOUR CONFIDENCE?

I WANT YOU TO FIND A HAIR RESTORER!

MISTER, I'M NOT HOUDINI! THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE!

NO, IT'S NOT! I HAVE A MAP HERE OF A PLACE OUT WEST WHERE THE INDIANS HAVE A MAGIC HAIR RESTORER!

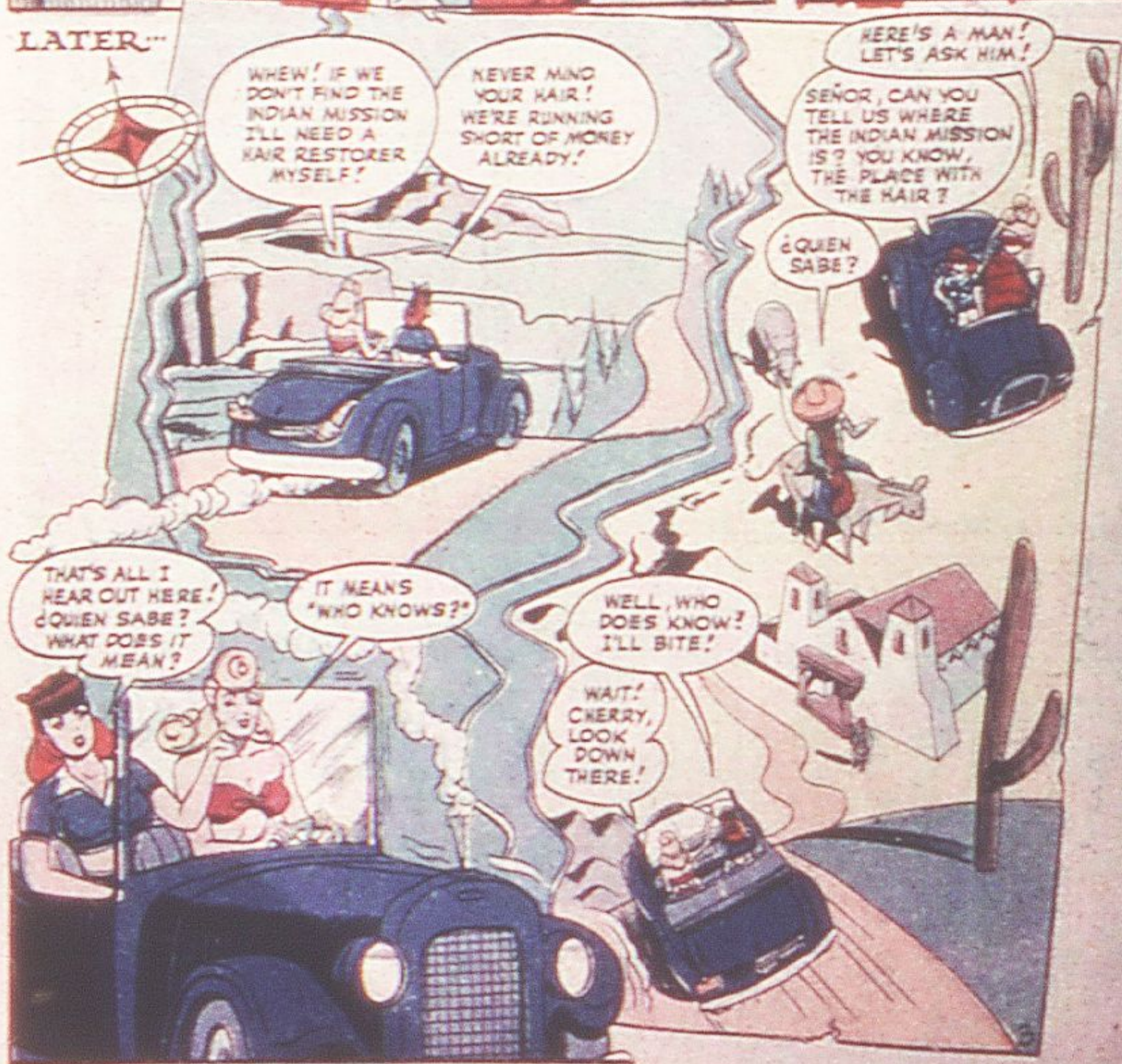
LET ME SEE THE MAP!

THIS IS THE EXACT PLACE, AND I'LL GIVE YOU \$10,000 IF YOU GET IT FOR ME!

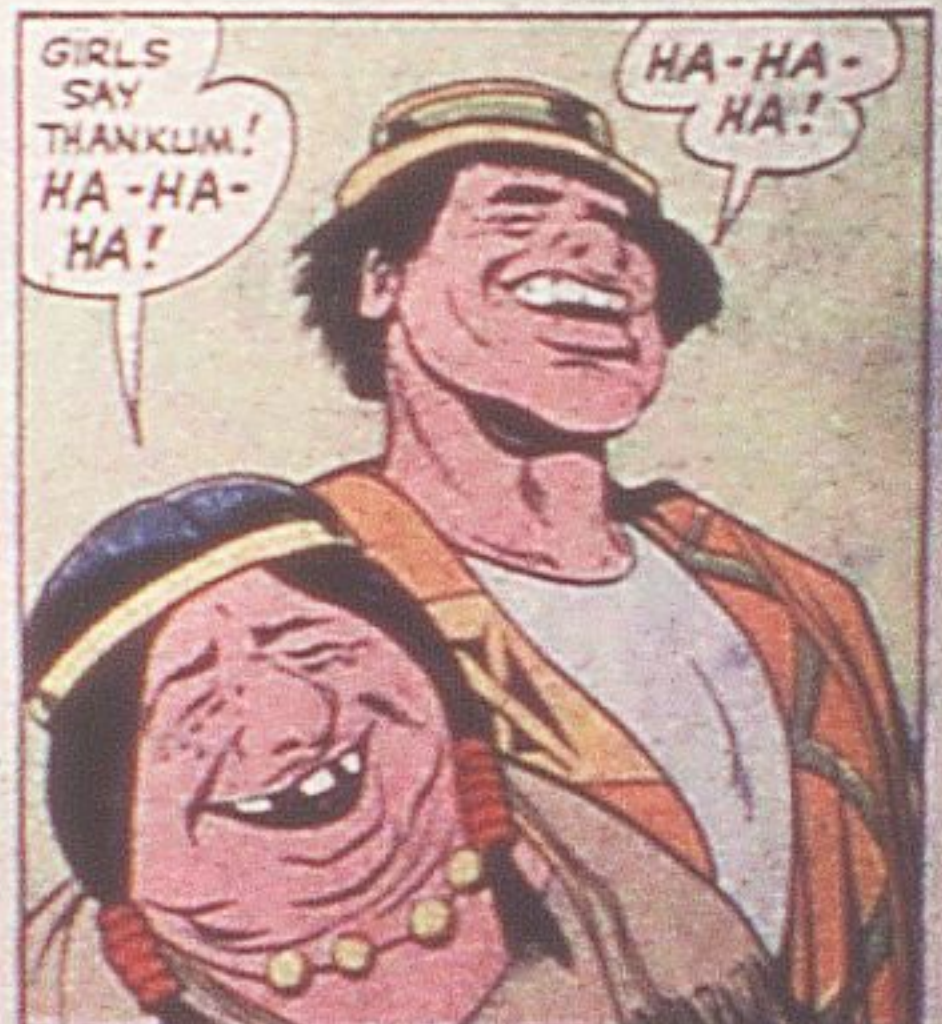
YOUR WORRIES ARE OVER! IF THE STUFF'S THERE, I'LL GET IT! NOW, ABOUT A RETAINER -



LATER...







A week later...

IT WAS A LONG
TRIP, BUT WE'RE
HOME! NOW FOR
THE REAL
DOUGH!

PARK HERE
AND CALL
UP OUR
CLIENT! WE
DON'T WANT
TO WASTE A
MINUTE!

HELLO, THIS IS INFORMATION,
LTD. WE'LL BE IN OUR
OFFICE IN 30 MINUTES.
WE HAVE THE STUFF!

YOU
HAVE?
WONDERFUL!
I'LL BE
RIGHT
OVER!

Soon--

QUICK! GIVE IT TO
ME! MY FRIEND AND
I CAN'T WAIT!

HERE! I
HOPE YOU
BROUGHT A
HAIR BRUSH!

AT LAST, THE MOMENT I'VE
DREAMED ABOUT! MY NEW
PERSONALITY!

THIS IS OUR
DAY, PERCY!
GIVE ME
SOME, TOO!

IT'S SUPPOSED
TO WORK
INSTANTANEOUSLY!

IF IT DOES, WE
WON'T HAVE TO
WORK AT ALL!

AAHH! I
FEEL SOME-
THING
GROWING
ON MY HEAD
ALREADY!

IT'S NOT
HAIR-- IT'S
FEATHERS!

I'M GOING TO SCALP
SOMEBODY FOR
THIS!

LOOKS LIKE WE BETTER
LOSE OUR BUSINESS
IDENTITY FOR A
WHILE!

AND JUST WHEN
THINGS WERE LOOK-
ING UP! OH, WELL--
HAIR TODAY... GONE
TOMORROW!

INFORMATION LTD.
PLEASE BRING IT--
WE FIND IT!

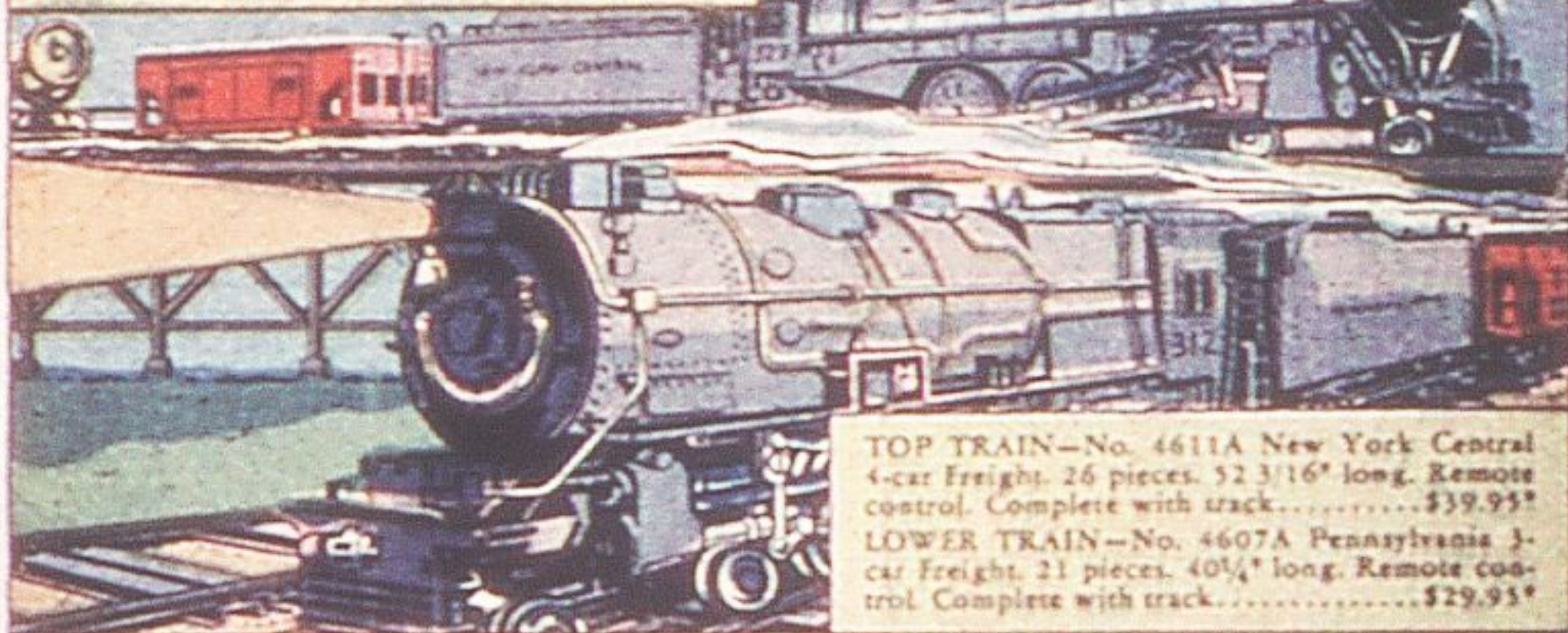
AMERICAN FLYER

Developed at the GILBERT HALL OF SCIENCE

WATCH
'EM PUFF
SMOKE!

HEAR 'EM
CHOO-CHOO

Only American Flyer has real smoke and realistic "choo-choo" sounds synchronized with train speed. The faster your train goes, the heavier are the puffs of smoke... the louder and faster the "choo-choos."



TOP TRAIN—No. 4611A New York Central 4-car Freight, 26 pieces, 52 3/16" long. Remote control. Complete with track.....\$39.95*
LOWER TRAIN—No. 4607A Pennsylvania 3-car Freight, 21 pieces, 40 1/4" long. Remote control. Complete with track.....\$29.95*

NEW TALKING RAILROAD STATION



The new American Flyers bring you all the wonder and glory of railroading. They puff real smoke. They reproduce the "choo-choo" sounds of a real locomotive under full steam. Both smoke and "choo-choos" vary in intensity as you increase or decrease the speed of your train. Locomotives, tenders, cars and track are all built to uniform 3/16" scale, so that your train looks like real—hugs the track like real. And a two-loop track layout takes space only 6 feet square. Cars have automatic couplers that couple anywhere. Uncouple by remote control. Die-cast locomotives have superpower worm drive for smooth, steady pull at all speeds from a crawl to 120 scale miles per hour. See and hear the sensational American Flyers at your nearest toy or department store.

*Dinner and drink, please mention flyer

HURRY!
SEND FOR YOURS



COLORFUL TRAIN BOOK, 32 big pages with color illustrations of American Flyer trains, automatic log loader, coal loader and other sensational equipment. Mail coupon with 10¢. Gilbert Hall of Science, 44 Erector Square, New Haven, Conn. Enclose 10¢. Rush colorful train book.

Name.....

Street.....

City..... State.....

WHEN IN NEW YORK, VISIT THE GILBERT HALL OF SCIENCE, FIFTH AVE AND 25TH ST. ADMISSION FREE!

LEARN RADIO

BY PRACTICING IN SPARE TIME

As part of my Course I send you the speaker, tubes, chassis, transformer, loop antenna, etc. . . . **EVERYTHING** you need to build this modern, powerful Radio Receiver! In addition, I send you parts to build many other real Radio circuits, like the Radio Tester, Frequency Modulation (FM) Signal Generator, and Superheterodyne Receiver pictured below. You use this material to get practical Radio experience and to make **EXTRA** money fixing neighbor's Radios in spare time. Mail coupon below for complete information!



I SEND YOU BIG KITS OF PARTS
You Build and Experiment
With this MODERN RADIO
AND MANY OTHER CIRCUITS



J. E. SMITH, President
National Radio Institute

I TRAINED THESE MEN



Radio 300 I
Week Post Doctor
 "I am Radio Technician for The Adams Appliance Co. Am now getting \$10 a week plus bonus and overtime." — W. A. ANGEL, Blytheville, Ark.



Know Nothing About Radio
 "I knew nothing about Radio when I enrolled. I am doing spare time work. I have more than paid for my Course and about \$200 worth of equipment." — RAYMOND HOLTCAMP, Vandalia, Illinois.

Do you want a good pay job in the fast-growing Radio Industry—or your own Radio Shop? Mail the Coupon for a Sample Lesson and my 64-page book, "How to Be a Success in RADIO—Television, Electronics," both **FREE**. See how I will train you at home—how you get practical Radio experience building, testing Radio circuits with **BIG KITS OF PARTS** I send!

Many Beginners Soon Make EXTRA Money in Spare Time While Learning

The day you enroll I start sending **EXTRA MINKY** materials that show you how to make **EXTRA** money fixing neighbor's Radios in spare time while still learning! It's probable easier to get started now than ever before, because the Radio Repair Business is booming. Trained Radio Technicians also find profitable opportunities in Police, Aviation, Marine Ra-

dio Broadcasting, Radio Manufacturing, Public Address work. Think of even **GREATER** opportunities in public demand for Television, FM, Electronic devices, continuous to grow. Send for **FREE** books now!

Find Out What NRI Can Do For You

Mail the Coupon for Sample Lesson and my 64-page book. Read the details about my Course; letters from men I trained, telling what they are doing and earning; see how quickly, easily you can get started. No obligation! Just **MAIL COUPON NOW** in envelope or paste on a penny postal.

J. E. SMITH, Pres.,
 Dept. 2011, National
 Radio Institute,
 Pioneer Home Study
 Radio School,
 Washington 2, D. C.

VETERANS

You can get
 this training
 under G. I. Bill.
 Mail coupon.

Be a
 Success
 in RADIO
 TELEVISION
 ELECTRONICS

Good for Both—FREE

MR. J. E. SMITH, Pres., Dept. 2011
 National Radio Institute, Washington 2, D. C.
 Mail me **FREE** Sample Lesson and 64-page book. (No salesman will call. Please write plainly.)

Name _____ Age _____
 Address _____
 City _____ Zone _____ State _____
☐ Check if Veteran
APPROVED FOR TRAINING UNDER G. I. BILL

My Course Includes Training in
TELEVISION • ELECTRONICS
FREQUENCY MODULATION

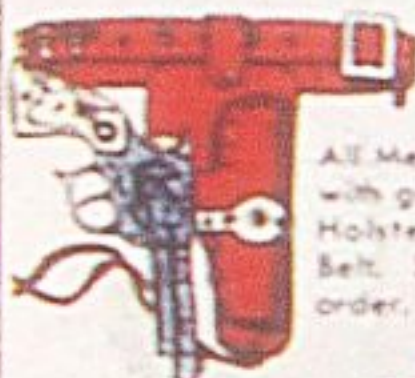


PRIZES GIVEN



DRESSER SET

FULL SIZE Comb, Brush and Mirror—exquisite—beautifully decorated. Sell one order of Xmas Packs.



FAMOUS TEXAN JR.

All Metal Cap Pistol with genuine leather Holster & Jeweled Belt. Sell only one order.

COMPLETE BASKETBALL SET

Full-size ball with steel goal and net. Sell one order plus \$1.25 extra.



TWO TELEPHONES

for person-to-person calls, between houses, or from floor to floor. Runs on 4 Flashlight batteries, included. Sell one order of Xmas packs, plus \$2.00.



CAMP-FIRE UKULELE

Full size. Decorated with Western scene. Clear mellow tone. Sell only one order Xmas Packs.



DICK TRACY CAMERA

Takes 16 pictures on each roll of film, has compartment for extra roll. This fine Camera and carrying case given for selling one order.



COMPLETE CHEMISTRY SET

Famous "Chemcraft" Set, for interesting experiments—and Magic Book of 50 Mysterious Chemistry Exhibitions. Sell one order Xmas Packs.



WRIST WATCH

Beautiful Wrist Watches for Girls and Boys. Sell one order, plus \$1.50 extra.



SHOW HOME MOVIES

Get this 16MM Excel Projector, including cord and 50 ft. of Cowboy Film. All given. Sell one order plus \$3.50 extra.



Touchdown!

OFFICIAL SIZE FOOTBALL Sell one order of Xmas Packs



POCKET WATCH

Standard size American made Pocket Watch with leather fob. Sell one order of Xmas Packs.



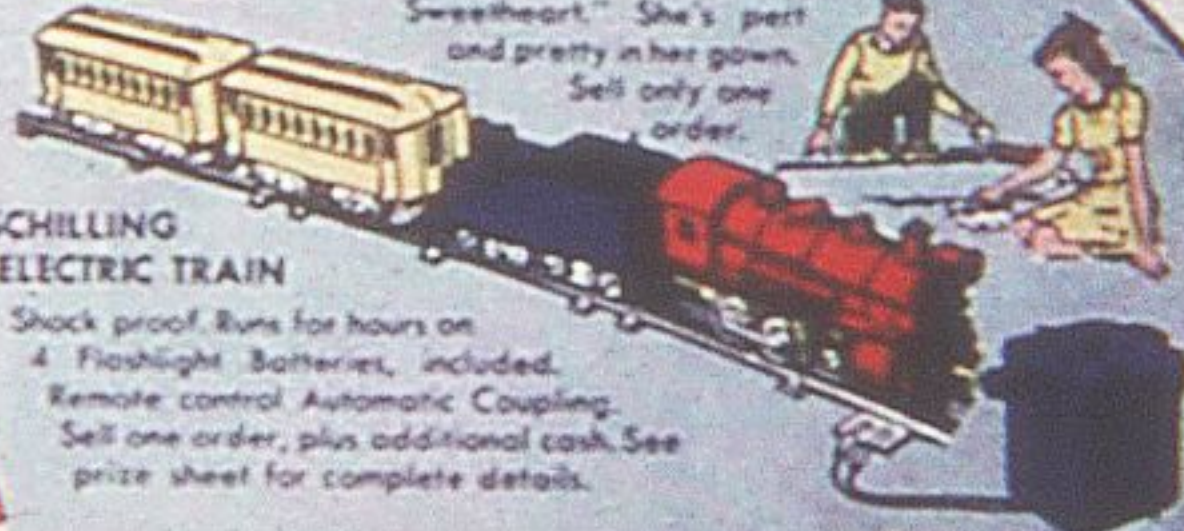
SWEETHEART DOLL

you'd love to own "Peggy Sweetheart." She's pert and pretty in her gown. Sell only one order.



SCHILLING ELECTRIC TRAIN

Shock proof. Runs for hours on 4 Flashlight Batteries, included. Remote control Automatic Coupling. Sell one order, plus additional cash. See prize sheet for complete details.



GET YOUR PRIZE THIS EASY WAY

BOYS! GIRLS! Get swell prizes for yourself or gifts for Mother and Dad. Most prizes shown above and many others in our BIG PRIZE SHEET are GIVEN WITHOUT A CENT OF COST for selling 40 Xmas Packs at 10c each. Some of the bigger prizes require extra money as stated in BIG PRIZE SHEET.

It is easy to sell these Xmas Packs to your family, friends and neighbors. Each pack contains 96 Sparkling Xmas Seals in brilliant colors—a big value. When sold, send us the money and choose your prize from our Big Prize Sheet.

Mail the coupon today for Xmas Packs and our Big Prize Sheet—tell us what prize you want.

SEND NO MONEY—WE TRUST YOU

AMERICAN SPECIALTY CO., Dept. 715, Lancaster, Pa.

MORE PRIZES

shown in our Big Prize Sheet.
Electric Phonograph
Air Pistol
Boxing Gloves
Jewelry
Flash Camera Outfit
Tool Set
Woodburning Set
Pen & Pencil Set
Travelling Case

OUR 30th YEAR

AMERICAN SPECIALTY CO.,
Dept. 715 Lancaster, Pa.

Please send me your Big Prize Sheet and one order of 40 Xmas Packs. I will resell them at 10c each, send you the money, and get my prize.

My choice of Prize is _____

Name _____

Street Address
or R.F.D. Box _____

City _____

State _____